

**2013 • 2014 FAR WEST**

# SKIERS GUIDE



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Jumping In  
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At Squaw Valley**

**Zermatt:  
Where  
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**FWSA Ski  
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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION  
*"The Voice of the Western Skier"*





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**DITCH THE CROWDS.**

The *Far West Skier's Guide* is published annually in October by the *Far West Ski Association* and *Leigh Gieringer Graphic Services/Division of Art & Ads: 3115 South Price Road, Chandler, AZ 85248; 480.600-6099 or fax 480.855.2303. [fwsa@cox.net](mailto:fwsa@cox.net).*

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General circulation throughout all regions  
Certified Folder, Phoenix, Arizona

Available Digitally at  
[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)

<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/farwestskiersguide/2012-13/>

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## FWSA/FWRA:

- 6 Board of Directors, Trustees
- 6 President's Message:  
FWSA is on the Move!
- 7 FWSA Committee  
Chairmen and Other  
Representatives
- 7 FWSA Presidents Gather  
at 2013 Convention
- 8 Council Information
- 8 FWSA Council Services  
Supports Clubs
- 8 National Ski Council  
Federation Brings  
Councils & Clubs  
Together Nationwide
- 10 FWSA Membership:  
Through Clubs or Direct
- 10 FWSA Direct Member  
Application Form
- 12 FWSA Communications
- 14 Ski Season - 2014
- 16 FWSA Travel Program

### North American Travel:

*Ski Week - 2014 -  
Beaver Creek, Colorado*  
*Mini Ski Week - 2014 -  
Davis Area / Snowbasin  
Ski Resort, Utah*  
*Ski Week - 2015 -  
Whistler Blackcomb,  
British Columbia, Canada*  
*Mini Ski Week - 2015 -  
Whitefish, Montana*

### International Travel:

*Ski Week - 2014 - Zermatt,  
Switzerland / Spain*  
*5th Annual Dive Trip - 2014 -  
TBD*  
*Adventure Trip - 2015  
South African Safari /  
Victoria Falls*  
*Ski Week - 2015 - Val d'Isère,  
France / Paris & Provence*  
*Adventure Trip - 2016  
England & Ireland*

- 24 FWRA Board of Directors
- 24 FWRA League Race Chairs
- 24 Why Do We Race?
- 25 FWRA Race Schedule
- 26 The FWSA Athletic  
Scholarship Program  
Helps Junior Racers
- 28 Pursue Your Passions  
Through the FWSF
- 30 FWSA 81st Annual  
Convention - *Mountain  
Magic Moments* - Recap
- 32 FWSA 2013  
Convention Sponsors
- 32 FWSA Industry  
Award Winners
- 33 Convention Door  
Prize Donors & Milestones
- 34 2013 FWSA Councils' Man  
& Woman of the Year
- 34 Silent Auction & Travel  
Expo Participants - 2013

*It was Mardi Gras on  
and off the slopes.  
Participants, like Jo  
Simpson - Sierra Council,  
added a little festive flavor  
to the occasion.*

*photo by Ken Calkins*

- 36 2013 FWSA Convention  
Award Recipients
- 36 Snowsports Celebrities  
Entertain & Inform
- 37 Candace Cable,  
Keynote Speaker
- 38 FWSA Safety  
Person of the Year
- 39 FWSA Western Ski  
Heritage Award
- 40 FWSA Snowsports  
Builder Awards
- 42 FWSA Ski Clubs &  
Councils Continue  
Generous Charity Support
- 44 FWSA 82nd Annual  
Convention - *Volcanic Para-  
dise* - Bend, Oregon
- 46 FWSA 83rd Annual  
Convention - *Salute to  
San Diego*
- 52 Public Affairs -  
2013 Update
- 60 Has Technology Made  
Skiing Safer?
- 66 FWSA Council &  
Club Information

## FEATURE ARTICLES:

- 52 The Road to Sochi
- 55 High Hopes Exist for  
an Olympic & Far West  
History Museum in  
Squaw Valley
- 56 Zermatt: Where  
Legends Meet!
- 61 How Well Do You  
Know Your Resorts?

## OTHER:

- 10 Order Form /  
*Far West Skier's Guide*
- 29 Hope on the  
Slopes Events
- 29 Winter Trails Day
- 47 Twelve Resorts /  
One Pass
- 53 Lodging Options
- 54 Regional Ski Shows
- 65 A Visit to the 2013-  
2014 Digital Edition  
Only Insert



*Members of the Santa Barbara Ski & Sports Club  
enjoy a beautiful day on the slopes at Mammoth.  
photo by Tara Brown*

## ON THE COVER:

*Sarah Hendrickson is  
shown jumping in the 2013  
World Championships -  
Val di Fiemme, Italy in  
February where she won  
the competition.*

*photo by Sarah Brunson, USSA*





**TOP LEFT TO RIGHT:** Lunchtime is a perfect time to relax and enjoy the scenery before going to the race course on the Aspen/Snowmass FWSA Ski Week. photos by Ken Calkins  
The 2014 Mini Ski Week will be to Davis Area and Snowbasin, Utah. photo courtesy of Snowbasin Ski Resort



The Aspen/Snowmass 2013 Ski Week was during Mardi Gras. Never let a great opportunity to party go to waste! After the lifts closed, the group continued the celebration.  
photo by Ken Calkins



**MIDDLE:** Divers on the 2012 Dive Trip assembled with their boat crew. photo provided by Randy Lew **ABOVE:** Zermatt, the site of the 2014 FWSA International Ski Week is a charming pedestrian village. There are three main streets which run along the banks of the Matter Vispa River. The waters are mostly melted ice from nearby glaciers. photo by George Stewart



**MIDDLE:** An adventure rafting excursion on the Truckee River was a popular option for attendees of the Reno Convention.  
photo provided by George Stewart  
**ABOVE:** Hannah DeGoey of Mammoth Mountain and Lindsay Minor of the Resorts of the Canadian Rockies paused a moment during the Friday Evening Silent Auction. Sabastian Diaz / Sabastian Diaz Photography



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**- 2013 / 2014 -**

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# **Far West Ski Association is on the Move!**

**by Linda Scott**  
*President, FWSA*

Greetings, and welcome to the 26th Edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*! This magazine will provide you with the information you need to find like-minded friends who ski and board, while exploring new places and fun adventures with members of the Far West Ski Association.

The Far West Ski Association (FWSA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization that is one of the country's largest ski associations. Our 11 member councils represent skiers and boarders in the 13 western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. In California, there are six councils: Bay Area, Central, Inland, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego. Arizona council is based in Phoenix, Intermountain is based in Boise, New Mexico is based in Albuquerque, Northwest is in Portland and Sierra is located in Reno. If your ski club is affiliated with one of these councils, you are a member of FWSA!

If you like snowsports, you have come to the right place! Our member clubs have active, year-round social and recreational events, including ski trips, recreational ski racing, water skiing, hiking, river rafting, dinners, theater, cruises, diving, biking, softball, wine tasting, camping, parties and just about any other fun activity you can think of. FWSA and its member clubs and councils are the place to join with other, active social people, and get discounted rates for your favorite event. You can visit our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), or follow us on Facebook and Twitter to learn more about our growing and vibrant organization.

Far West Ski Association is offering several fabulous trips during the 2014 calendar year. We kick off the year with our FWSA Ski Week during the week of January 25 - February 1 where we ski and have fun in Beaver Creek, Colorado. If you are looking for a shorter ski trip, we will be traveling to the Davis Area, Utah, from February 22 - 27 for our FWSA Mini Ski Week to ski Snowbasin.



If you are interested in international travel, from March 6 - 23, we are off to Zermatt, Switzerland, followed by an optional extension to Spain. But, that's not all! We recently returned from a fun and successful dive trip to Belize, and we will set sail from November 9-16, 2013 to explore the Caribbean on the cruise ship *The Norwegian Epic*. In the fall of 2014, we will be venturing to the continent of Africa to go on safari and visit Victoria Falls. You can be a part of all of this, and more, by joining a FWSA member club and council. Or, you can become a direct member of the Association. See page 10. In addition, our member clubs and councils offer their own trips and activities, so you can find friends and visit new places whenever you are ready to go. So join us!

From June 12-15, 2014, we will host our 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in Bend, Oregon. Our Convention will have special guests, a silent auction and travel expo, and lots of optional activities. These will include hiking, biking, golfing and our not to be missed Pub Crawl. On Saturday night, we will have music and dancing; and an Awards Banquet to recognize outstanding achievements in snowsports. In addition to all the fun, we host a Snowsports Leadership Academy where we offer seminars in ski club leadership and management, safety, and snowsports trends. We also host a Public Affairs Panel with special guest speakers that are not to be missed! This fantastic weekend of events will be hosted by Northwest Ski Club Council. Put it on your calendar now!

Far West Ski Foundation is a public benefit corporation, a nonprofit and tax exempt organization under IRS category 501(c)(3). It



is through the Foundation that we work to support the Athletic Scholarship Program, Skier Rehabilitation Program, Snowsports History Program, and Women's Ski Jumping. The Foundation is growing, and we will continue to work hard to make each year more successful than the last. We appreciate all of our generous donors who have made the Foundation strong.

It is with anticipation that we enter an Olympic year, with the Sochi Winter Olympics to be held February 7-23, 2014. Our U.S. Ski Team is stronger than ever. The Far West Ski Association and Far West Ski Foundation have generated funds and support not only for junior racers and future Olympians, but also for Women's Ski Jumping USA. We will especially feel a great sense of pride as we watch this team compete in their first-ever Winter Olympics.

FWSA has a wonderful team of volunteers who contribute countless hours of time and expertise to our organization. In addition, we could not have the outstanding level of success that we achieve year after year, without the generosity and support of our industry partners and sponsors. Thank you for all you do on behalf of FWSA!

Great things are happening at Far West Ski Association, and I look forward to seeing you soon, on the slopes or at our 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in Bend, Oregon next June! ▲▲

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## FWSA Presidents Gather at 2013 Convention



Several of the past Far West Ski Association presidents gathered at the 2013 FWSA Convention held in Reno, Nevada this past June to congratulate newly elected president, Linda Scott. Pictured from left to right: Jane Wyckoff (1981-1985), Steve Coxen (2000-2003), Harry Davis (1996-2000), Linda Scott (2013-), Randy Lew (2006-2013), and Mike Sanford (2003-2006). photo by Catherine Ohl

## Won't You Join Us?





## 2013 - 2014 Council Information

*Please check council websites  
for dates, times and locations  
of council meetings.*

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## FWSA Council Services Support Clubs

by Jo Simpson

*Vice-President of Council Services, FWSA*

Council Services supports Far West Ski Association clubs by working through the presidents of the 11 member councils. I am honored to have been elected Vice President of Council Services and look forward to serving in this role for the next two years. We have a talented and involved group of council presidents and program chairs who work together to provide programs and initiatives that benefit our member clubs.

There are several great programs that Council Services oversees: Club and Council Communication and Outstanding Club Awards, Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition, Charities and Our Community, and Family and Youth Involvement.

Council Services has a goal to increase submissions from clubs for the newsletter, website and outstanding club competitions. These recognitions are a great vehicle for clubs to recognize their hard working volunteers; however, we would like to see more club entries. Our Club/Council Communication Awards Chair, Crissymarie King, has done an outstanding job in her first year with this program and she has great ideas for enhancing it. She is compiling an e-mail group of the newsletter editors and webmasters to enhance communication with them throughout the year. We look forward to working with her to explore ways to stimulate entries for 2014.

The FWSA Skin Cancer Prevention Program and its mascot Savvy Snake, chaired by Fran Long as part of the Family and Youth Program, have been wildly successful in engaging kids and parents at ski shows. The stickers and brochures with a kid's game are a big hit. FWSA is funding the materials for ski shows this fall. In addition to being a great vehicle to educate kids about using sunscreen, the promotion also provides an opportunity to make parents aware of the varied programs FWSA offers through our local clubs.

Fran, and Bob Ellis, VP Racing, are joining together in a pilot program to reach junior racers and their families at the Lake Tahoe resorts this winter. They want to engage parents of junior racers in a discussion of the work of FWSA, and the opportunity to apply to the Far West Ski Foundation scholarships for promising junior racers.

The Charity and Community Service recognition, chaired by Sigrid Noack, highlights the good work our clubs and councils

do to benefit their communities. Sigrid and her committee have improved the judging criteria and process for these awards, and we look forward to working with her to further refine the process for 2014. The considerable charity and community work of FWSA clubs and councils is further detailed by Sigrid on pages 42-43.

The Councils' Man and Woman of the Year is a wonderful way for clubs and councils to honor their outstanding volunteers. Headed by Donn Bryant, the program involves councils selecting candidates from their member clubs to be honored at the FWSA Convention where the Councils' Man and Woman are named. The 2013 council candidates and the FWSA winners are highlighted on pages 34-35.

Most of us joined a ski club to meet and socialize with active people who like to ski and to take advantage of group ski trips to interesting resorts, as well as other socializing. The mission of Council Services is to provide FWSA ski clubs with tools to enhance their success. We welcome ideas and feedback from club members and those who are reading this publication who would like to have more information about our clubs and FWSA. You can contact me at [jo\\_simpson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net). I look forward to hearing from you. ▲▲

## National Ski Council Federation Brings Councils & Clubs Together Nationwide

by Jo Simpson

*Public Affairs Chair, NSCF /  
Sierra Council President*

The Far West Ski Association and member councils enjoy the benefits of belonging to the National Ski Council Federation. The Federation provides Far West councils an opportunity to interact with ski councils in the southern, central and eastern United States to exchange ideas and receive valuable information for our member clubs. The Federation meetings are structured to provide a forum for council and ski industry representatives to discuss subjects of mutual interest. The 2013 meeting was hosted by Grand Targhee Ski Resort in Wyoming, September 18-22.

The Federation provides a wide variety





*The Annual NSCF Meeting was held in Grand Targhee, Wyoming. The FWSA delegates were: Sandra Knapp, President, LAC; Laura Kennedy, Representative for SDCSC; Judy Thurman, President, OC; Jo Simpson, President, Sierra; Linda Scott, President, FWSA; Maria Hancock, ISC (Intermountain) Back Row: Tim Avedovech, Arizona; Bob Ellis, President, FWRA; Eric Hancock, ISC; and Dennis Heffley, President, BAC and Vice-President, NSCF*

*photo /Bob Wilbanks, National Ski Club Newsletter*

of benefits to its members. Check with your ski council to see if they are members of the Federation. The Members Only section of the Federation website contains a resource center with templates for by-laws, requests for proposal for trip bids, club officer job descriptions and other documents that clubs can adapt to meet their unique needs. The user name and password for the Members Only section are available from council presidents. The website also offers members a variety of attractive discounts on items such as ski rentals, lodging, car rentals, and a variety of ski gear. The discount listing is also located in the Members Only section of the website.

The Federation launched a completely renovated website along with an updated logo. The site has expanded information and improved navigation. Check it out!

The Federation was formed in 1999 to provide councils an opportunity to exchange information and to discuss among themselves and with the ski industry important issues that impact clubs and councils throughout the United States.

The Federation elects officers every two years. The current officers are: President, Joe Harvis (New Jersey Ski Council); Vice President, Dennis Heffley (Bay Area Snow Sports Council); Treasurer, Cheryl Mann (Texas Ski Council); Secretary, Lisa Beregi (Crescent Ski Council - Eastern U.S.). Like FWSA, the Federation is completely operated by volunteers.

For detailed information regarding the NSCF, including participating councils and member benefits, please visit our website at [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org). ▲▲

# Thank You!

Thank you for using Ski.com to arrange your 2015 Far West Ski Association trip to Whistler. We are honored to have your business and we look forward to delivering a flawless experience in British Columbia.

## The 2013/2014 season is right around the corner

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photo © Randy Lincks / Whistler Blackcomb



## FWSA DIRECT MEMBER APPLICATION 2013-2014

Direct membership is available for an individual or family who is NOT a member of a FWSA-affiliated snowsports club. Members of FWSA affiliated ski clubs are automatic FWSA members. Membership is effective through September 30, 2014.

### DIRECT MEMBER BENEFITS

■ FWSA Membership Card ■ Member Benefits & Discounts ■ Copy of the annual *Far West Skier's Guide* ■ *The Councilman* subscription ■ Invitation to the Annual FWSA Convention and Silent Auction ■ Participation in FWSA Travel Program, and more.

### ANNUAL DIRECT MEMBER DUES:

\$30 per member; \$50 per couple; \$60 per family. Please copy form and fill it out. Make checks payable to FWSA and mail to: **FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION** c/o Mary Azevedo, VP - Membership, FWSA. 901 Sousa Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94597 / 925-944-9816.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Are you interested in information about ski or snowboard clubs in your area?

### The Far West Skier's Guide can be sent directly to you.

The FWSG is available at no cost to members through your ski club, however, if you wish to have the magazine sent to you directly, please copy form, fill out and return with a check for US\$4.00 to cover postage and handling. Send to:

#### FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE

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## FWSA Membership is Available Through Clubs; or Become a Direct Member

by Mary Azevedo

Vice-President of Membership, FWSA



*There are many benefits to membership, whether it is through your ski club or as a direct member. Besides the extensive world-wide travel opportunitys, members can participate in the annual FWSA Convention held in different locations throughout the west. At the Convention, there is a Travel Expo where attendees can meet with resort representatives who can provide information about their resorts for future trip planning. It is a wonderful way to get individual attention to have your questions answered. Learn about recent resort improvements, lodging opportunities, closest airports, shuttles, the best trails to ski or board for your ability levels, favorite restaurants not to be missed, and anything important to you or your group. A club delegate speaks with Michael Green and Hannah DeGoey from Mammoth Mountain at the 2013 FWSA Convention Travel Expo. photo by Sigrid Noack*

Far West Ski Association has approximately 50,000 members in 13 western states. It is the umbrella organization over 11 councils. Within the councils, there are approximately 165 ski clubs. Membership in the Far West Ski Association has so many benefits. The varied programs offered are found in articles written by officers of the Association, committee chairmen, and council presidents, included in this issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide*. You will have a great time thinking of all different ways you can enjoy snowsports.

If you are already a member of a council club, you are automatically a member of the Far West Ski Association. The FWSA has a member benefits program, as do councils and clubs. These include discounts on ski equipment, lodging at ski resorts, and even discounts at certain restaurants in the ski areas. All you have to do is show your FWSA Membership Card, which is provided by your ski club. There aren't any nicer people than those who join clubs, and members become a close-knit community. With summer and winter activities that go beyond snowsports, you can have a very active life just belonging to a club. Many clubs offer kayaking, hiking, biking, and water skiing, to name just a few fun additional activities.

Another benefit to joining a club is that members carpool together or charter buses so you don't need to drive to a ski area by yourself. This doesn't just include weekend trips but mid-week skiing, as well. Many ski clubs belong to a race league, and there are also junior races for children. If you are looking for a great organization to join, a snowsports club should be one of your first considerations. Refer to the Club Section (*starting on page 66*) of this issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide* for a local club near where you live. Club listings are by council.

Direct membership in the Far West Ski Association is available for those who have relocated, and for those nationwide who wish to participate in Far West travel and other organizational opportunities. Simply copy and fill out the application on the top left on this page and mail it in along with the membership fee. ▲▲





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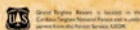
GRAND TARGHEE RESORT

Break away



Photo: Gabe Rogel

GrandTarghee.com



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The newly elected Vice-President of Communications, Jim Nachbar; right, is shown with Wanda Hinler; left, Arizona Council's Woman of the Year, and Linda Westlund, FWSA Trustee at the 2013 Convention, also from Arizona Council. Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography



As technology advances, the communications program at FWSA is moving forward as well, bringing you closer to exciting trips and travel, to the snowsports world, and to your friends.

The past year saw the release of a brand-new website, much easier to navigate, and with more and better content. If you have not yet seen [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) in the past year, you should stop by soon. The new website is topped by an extensive menu of content, with a feature article, a calendar of upcoming events and travel, and links to great publications on the front page. It is constantly being updated with fresh material. Stop by often!

The next step for the website will be to add more interactive features, allowing you to create your own login, and bringing you access to members-only capabilities. We will be rolling out these features over the coming



### **Skiing Around the World: Volume II by Jimmy Petterson Currently in Production**

Jimmy Petterson's award-winning seminal work, *Skiing Around the World* was published in 2005 and sold out in 2008. In the eight years since it first hit the shelves, Jimmy has been working on Volume Two of his life's work. At this point, he has skied in a total of 69 countries, and despite a broken neck last year that laid him low for a while, he is heading to Antarctica in November to gather material for the new book. As with his first book, *Skiing Around the World: Volume II* will take skiers to some of the most famous ski resorts of the world, along with obscure destinations that most people have never heard of. The new book will cover such classic resorts as Kitzbühel, La Plagne, Deer Valley, Aspen, Mammoth, Courmayeur, Davos, Grindelwald, Wengen, Ischgl, and Voss, but it will also take skiers to unusual ski destinations in Armenia, South Africa, Lesotho, Israel, Russia, the Ukraine, Scotland, India, Venezuela, and much more. Simultaneously with the release of the new book will come a long-awaited second printing of Volume One. The books will be available to buy individually or as a set. Jimmy hopes to have the book finished in autumn of 2015. ▲▲

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# FWSA Communications

by James Nachbar  
Vice-President of Communications, FWSA

months, including the ability to sign up for and pay for trips and events, review the trips and events you have already signed up for and taken, and make automatic progress payments as payment for the larger trips becomes due.

During the trip, you will probably take a lot of great pictures. However, the video of you doing that backward flip is always on someone else's phone! Watch for the upcoming ability to upload your photos and videos, and to share those uploaded by your friends.

Also, a key part of FWSA communications is helping you make the most of your memberships in your local ski club and council. Your club has some great trips, but maybe you live in Arizona, and a club in Washington is doing that killer bike trip in Europe you have always wanted to do. Among all of the clubs and councils, there are hundreds of great trips every year. Many clubs would welcome

you on their trips, and would like to be able to let you know about them. Until now, that has been difficult, but watch for a coordinated way for clubs to share information about upcoming trips with members throughout FWSA, as well as an automated way for club websites to be updated with fresh news and events from FWSA.

And, that's just the website! FWSA continues an extensive and robust communications program, including the comprehensive annual *Far West Skier's Guide*. You will want to refer to it often. Also, look for the *Digital Edition* of the *Far West Skier's Guide* on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website. It features even more content than the printed version since there is an extra insert online.

Our *Facebook* page has been very active, with lots of FWSA news, as well as updates on winter racing and sports from around the

world. If you want to know who just won what, look for it on our Facebook page.

You can follow updates on our Facebook page or our *Twitter* feed, and you can also subscribe to the *Far West News Flash* to get an e-mail with the latest snowsports news. Look for the links on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) for Facebook, Twitter, and to subscribe to the *Far West News Flash*. And, for more detailed information about what FWSA is working on, be sure to see *The Councilman* newsletter, mailed to direct members and published on our website three times each year.

We are all very excited to be using new technologies to advance the communications program at FWSA. We have done a lot in the past year, and have much more planned in the coming year to help you connect with your friends, your travel, your local club and council, and FWSA. Check back often! ▲

Aspen FWSA Ski Week photo by Ken Calkins

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*Ski Shows are great places to buy or sell used equipment. The 2013 Ski Show schedule appears on page 54. photo courtesy of Ski Dazzle*

## Ski Season - 2014: Ready or Not, Here We Come

by Debbi Kor

Vice-President of Marketing, FWSA

Summer is winding down, and I'm sitting at my desk writing this article about an exciting new ski season about to happen in just a few short months. Soon, we'll be packing away the shorts and sandals, paddle boards and bikes, replacing them with snow pants and parkas, skis and snowboards. Boy how time flies! With that said, you'd best go through your closet and throw out the mothballs. Shake out the ski sweaters, long-johns and turtlenecks, because we're going for a ride down the slopes of some of our favorite mountains.

Let's hope that 2014 will be a stellar year with more snow than we know what to do with! We'll be anxiously awaiting the annual Warren Miller movie to get our clubs all psyched up, heading to our local ski shows and ski swaps to check out some new gear, and preparing ourselves for another fabulous year! We'll be looking for that chance to escape to a wonderful winter wonderland, which could include a trip to Aspen/Snowmass, Beaver Creek, Sun Valley, Telluride, one of the fine Utah resorts, the Lake Tahoe area, Canadian resorts and others.

Our clubs and councils travel to many destinations. Whether we go internationally, or choose one of our favorite US destinations, we have a lot to choose from. Information on FWSA trips can be found elsewhere in this issue. It should be a great year, indeed!

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with the many opportunities that Far West Ski Association provides our members, be certain to visit our website - [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and check out the many offers available through our **Member Benefits** program. We have 17 wonderful lodging partners who have generously offered discounted rates for our members, including Hilton Homewood Suites in Jackson Hole, long-time partner Columbine Inn & Conference Center in Taos, Phoenix Inn & Suites in Bend, Oregon, and our newest lodging partner, Casa Alpina in Rossland, B.C. We also have a host of ski shops and services offering reduced prices on ski rentals and transportation, such as Ski Set, located in 750 rental shops worldwide, as well as Ski 'N See in Utah. To get around in Park City, give the Transportation Network a call, or in Steamboat, call Go Alpine to receive 15% to 20% off the shuttle service from the airport. We also have a new adventures' partner, Nautic Adventures, providing us a 25% discount off their "Pro Deal" on sailing adventures in the Caribbean, the Greek Isles, and in the San Juan Islands. Also see the digital only insert found at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Check them out!

Our sponsors were out in full force this year, for the 81st Annual Far West Ski Association Convention in Reno. Aspen/Snowmass - sponsors of the Annual Far West Safety Award; Big White Ski Resort - sponsor of the Far West Council's Man and Woman of the Year Award; Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation - sponsor of the Western Ski Heritage Award; and Grouse Mountain Lodge and Whitefish Mountain Resort - sponsors of the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program. We've come to know all of these folks through their continued support and commitment to FWSA, and our many wonderful programs. For this, I would like to extend my sincerest thank you! If it weren't for these sponsors, all of our event sponsors, and the large number of industry friends who participate in the Silent Auction and Travel Expo each year, we would not be able to put on the fantastic convention that we do! We enjoy hosting you each year at our Annual Convention, and look forward to seeing you in Bend, Oregon - June 12-15, 2014.

If you are a vendor and would like to join FWSA as a Member Benefits Partner, or get involved in a sponsorship with our organization, please contact me at [fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net), or check our website at [www.fwsa.org/members\\_corner/benefits](http://www.fwsa.org/members_corner/benefits). ▲▲

*When the skis are put to rest,  
Après Ski activities begins on the  
Aspen Ski Week. photo by Ken Calkins*



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by Condé Nast Magazine



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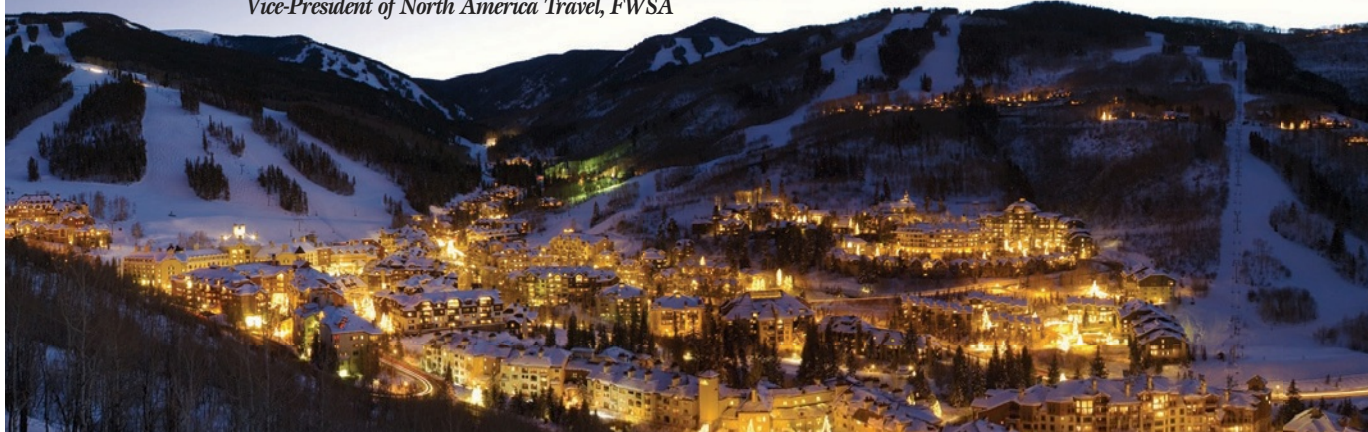




# North American Travel

by Nancy Ellis

Vice-President of North America Travel, FWSA



Beaver Creek: Vail Resorts / Jack Affleck, photographer

## The North American Ski Week Will be Held in Beaver Creek, Colorado January 25 - February 1, 2014

*"Not exactly roughing it!"*

That's what FWSA members will be doing for the January 25 - February 1, 2014 Far West Ski Week in Beaver Creek. Tommy Geary with Vail Resorts Beaver Creek, Stephen Hall and Sandy Gaudette of Ski-

group.net, along with Nancy Ellis and her travel staff have been working together preparing for another FWSA outstanding ski week. Participants will have the opportunity to ski or ride 149 trails accessed by 25 lifts with something for everyone, from Strawberry

*Beaver Creek Resort is comprised of three distinct on-mountain villages - the main Beaver Creek Village, Bachelor Gulch and Arrowhead, and two amenity-laden towns at its base. Each village setting has its own unique character and mountain setting.*

Park's gentle groomers to the Birds of Prey downhill course where hundreds of skiers compete on the world cup circuit. There will also be a ski day to Vail Resort for those wishing to check out this ski area only a short bus ride away.

### *Ski week activities will consist of:*

- Welcome Party
- Pub Crawl
- Races
- Après Party
- Mountain Picnic
- Awards Banquet and Dance
- Racer Reception
- & more

Beaver Creek resort is made up of three separate and distinct villages. Beaver Creek Village is the main center of the resort where all the walkways are heated and clear of snow. The center of the village has an ice rink with boutiques, art galleries, the Vilar Center of the Arts, and bars and restaurants lining the perimeter. You access the base area to the lifts via escalators. Bachelor Gulch is where the world renowned Ritz Carlton Hotel is located along with many other homes and condominiums. This area offers mostly intermediate skiing and riding. Arrowhead Village is the westernmost entrance to the resort, offering the Broken Arrow restaurant with an outdoor patio.

Please check the FWSA website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) for the Beaver Creek flyer which includes details and information to sign up for this exciting trip.



## More than Just Snow ...



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**Ski group thanks the Farwest Ski Association for their business in partnering on the Beaver Creek trip 2014.**

**We love the snow, but we love sun too!**

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toll free 866.439.3357  
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*Snowbasin Ski Resort is one of the oldest ski resorts in the US. However, it had a major overhaul prior to hosting the 2002 Winter Olympic Alpine races. The mountain offers a diverse selection of terrain. This luxurious ski paradise is best known for its wide-open bowls, gladed runs, groomed trails and powder stashes days after a storm. It also has several terrain parks, groomed Nordic trails and a tubing park. The lift system is one of the west's finest, allowing even non-skiers access to the award winning mountain top dining. Snowbasin / Facshots Photography*

the 2002 Men's and Women's Downhill Winter Olympic races, will be the location of the 2014 Mini Ski Week. Included in the ski trip are five nights lodging, skiing three or four days at Snowbasin Resort, a Welcome Party, daily deluxe continental breakfast, Pub Crawl, and Farewell Dinner/Party at Antelope Island State Park. Optional activities include The Canyons Ski Day (Vail Epic pass may be used at The Canyons), lunch/dinner and shopping in Salt Lake City or Ogden, and Party at Bogey Social Club.

#### **Snowbasin Mountain Statistics**

- 113 trails
- 3,000 skiable acres
- 2,950' vertical rise
- 9,350' summit elevation
- 400" average snowfall

The ski area has diverse terrain for beginners and challenging runs for experts. It's best known for wide-open bowls, gladed runs, manicured groomers, powder stashes days after a snow storm, and rarely a lift line. An information flyer about this trip is located at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Looking forward to seeing you on this trip!

## **Snowbasin Ski Resort, Utah** **is the Site of the FWSA Mini Ski Week**

**February 22 - 27, 2014**

Davis Area, Utah known as the "Amusement Park Capital of Utah, the "Home of the

Great Salt Lake" and the "Gateway to Antelope Island", and Snowbasin Ski Resort, site of

### Far West Ski Association's 2014 Mini Ski Week

February 22-27, 2014

## snowbasin

A SUN VALLEY RESORT

Join us for the FWSA 2014 Mini-Ski Week in Utah. You'll be amazed by Snowbasin's incredible terrain, their food, day lodges and service. Pricing options begin at \$230pp (dbl occupancy) for non-skiers. Ski package options begin at only \$450 - which includes 5 nights lodging, deluxe breakfasts, 3 days of lift tickets, resort transfers, a Welcome Party at the hotel and a Farewell Party at Antelope Island State Park.

**Contact:**  
 Gloria Raminha  
 Trip Leader  
 661-829-5996 (h)  
 661-800-8229 (c)  
[garski2011@gmail.com](mailto:garski2011@gmail.com)

For details: Click the QR code above with your smart phone, or on your computer visit [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org), then the Travel tab, then Ski North America, & choose Snowbasin



**2015 North American  
Ski Week**  
**Whistler Blackcomb,**  
**Canada**  
**January 31 - February 7, 2015**



Emily Serrell/coastphoto.com



Emily Serrell/coastphoto.com



Alistair Hotham / coastphoto.com

*Whistler Ski Resort is in a class by itself. A world class resort, it combines a massive amount of diverse terrain with an extremely efficient and constantly improving lift system. TOP: Take a moment to enjoy the impressive views of the Pacific Range of the Coast Mountains. LEFT: The resort averages 38.5' of snow annually. RIGHT: Terrain is suitable for all abilities.*

Whistler Blackcomb, located in British Columbia, Canada, will be the site of the 2015 Far West Ski Week, January 31- February 7, 2015. This very popular resort is a favorite ski destination in North America and features the Peak to Peak Gondola which moves between Whistler and Blackcomb mountains. The Peak to Peak Gondola holds the record for the highest and longest unsupported cable car span in the world.

This premiere resort features more than 200 shops, 90 restaurants and bars, and accommodations galore. It offers a variety of winter activities for all, and was the proud host mountain for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic games.

**Whistler Blackcomb Mountain Statistics:**

- Combined 200+ trails
- Combined 37 lifts
- Combined 8,171 acres of skiable terrain
- Vertical: 5,020' Whistler Mtn. and 5,280' Blackcomb Mtn.
- Elevation: 7,160' Whistler Mtn. and 7,494' Blackcomb Mtn.
- 2,214' Whistler Village base elevation
- Combined 16 alpine bowls
- Combined 3 glaciers
- Combined 5 terrain parks, 1 super pipe, and 1 snow cross track
- Terrain type—15-20% beginner; 55% intermediate; 25-30% advance

# WHISTLER

MORE SNOW. MORE VARIETY. MORE ACCESS.



If you're looking for more from your ski club vacation, look no further. Bring together incredible and varied terrain, over 38 feet of snowfall annually, the best ski school, the largest and newest selection of rental gear, a family-friendly resort and a pedestrian village with many shopping and dining possibilities; add two new lifts to access even more of the good stuff. What more could you want?

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whistlerblackcomb.com/groups



Far West travel staff, council trip leaders, Ondrea Ross with Whistler Blackcomb, and Gloria Saiya Woods with Ski.com will soon start preparations for what will be an exciting and enjoyable experience for Far West Ski Association members. Information about this trip will be posted on the Far West Ski Association website [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) beginning in February/March, 2014.



**2015 FWSA Mini Ski Week**  
**Whitefish Mountain Resort, Montana**  
**March 30 - April 4, 2015**



*Whitefish Mountain Resort is separated into three faces. The front side has the most skiable terrain. The back side of the mountain has more tree skiing terrain, and additional terrain is opened on weekends and during select holiday periods. The western face of the mountain contains the Hell Roaring Basin. It has the most advanced skiing on the mountain with cliffs, vertical chutes, and tight tree skiing. The intermediate Hellfire trail is the longest on the mountain. It runs 3.3 miles. photo courtesy of Whitefish Mountain Resort*

The 2015 FWSA Mini Ski Week will be to Whitefish Mountain Resort with lodging at Grouse Mountain Lodge. This resort is located in northwestern Montana, west of Glacier National Park in the Flathead National Forest. The resort was formally known as The Big Mountain.

The trip includes airport ground transfers, four or five day lift tickets, transfers to the ski resort, and Welcome and Farewell Parties. Other options include night skiing, snowmobile tours, moonlight dine and ski, Summit Nature Center, day spa, Glacier Park tours, dogsled adventures, and sleigh rides. This trip will provide participants with an authentic Montana experience. An information flyer is available on the Far West Ski Association website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

**Whitefish Mountain Resort Statistics:**

- Summit Elevation: 6,817'
- Vertical Drop: 2,353'
- Base Elevation: 4,464'
- Average Annual Snowfall: 300"
- Terrain: 3,000 acres
- Marked Trails: 98
- Degree of Difficulty:  
15% Beginner, 35% Intermediate,  
40% Advanced, and 10% Expert

*these are the good old days.*

*There's still a place where  
fresh powder lasts, locals  
make you feel at home and  
your dollar goes further.*

*Welcome to Whitefish.*

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WHITEFISH, MONTANA

Partially Located on National Forest Lands  Photo © Noah Clayton



# International Travel

by Debbie Stewart

Vice-President of International Travel, FWSA

This is a very exciting time for Far West Ski Association's international travelers! Our international travel program is advancing at a steady pace. Our commitment to capturing the imagination of our members, create adventuresome travel experiences with lasting friendships and memories continues to evolve.

We have created our first FWSA travel video, which highlights and features the values and benefits of traveling with FWSA. It shows and details the various trips and adventure travel that FWSA has to offer including our annual North American Ski Week, the mini-ski week, the summer adventure trip, our annual international ski trip with extension options and our annual adventure trips. Not only do we provide many travel options, we feel it is our job to enhance our participant's travel desires by providing amazing destinations and exceptional customer service.

## **Here are some reasons to travel with FWSA:**

- Adventuresome destinations for both skiers and non-skiers alike.
- Experience skiing in unique areas such as the Jungfrau Region or ski on the famous Aiguilles du Midi glacier 12,600' in France.
- Take advantage of optional day tours, from magical castles such as Neuschwanstein, to ancient Roman ruins, extraordinary museums including the Louvre and D'Orsay in Paris, and much more.
- Learn and experience the rich, local culture in a variety of countries.
- Explore the undersea world during one of our annual FWSA dive trips.
- Create memorable experiences with new and old friends.
- Travel with confidence with an experienced travel team and reputable tour operators to provide our participants outstanding service.

## **Recap of 2013 Travel Destinations**

Our FWSA International Ski Week March 2 – 10, 2013 in Innsbruck, Austria was a tremendous success! A total of 86 participants spent seven nights at the 4-star Hotel Grauer Bar which exceeded our expectations. Their overwhelming hospitality and high level of customer service was received by all. Innsbruck, the Tyrolean capital, hosted the Winter

Olympics in 1964 and 1976. It has over 320 miles of trails easily accessible in 25 surrounding village resorts. There are nine major ski areas that provided varied terrain for all levels of skiers. After skiing at Axamer Lizum, Mike Sanford stated, *"this was an excellent ski day with beautiful blue skies, we skied our buns off and it couldn't have been better!"*

Besides skiing locally, we organized ski days in St. Anton, St. Moritz and Ischgl which greatly enhanced our members' ski experiences. Wanda Ross commented, *"It was great that you acted on what our members asked you for. Skiing Ischgl was by far the best ski day ever!"* Nicholas Boekdrukker, Manager for International Marketing and Media for Innsbruck Tourism, arranged a welcome party for our group in the courtyard of the Historical Imperial Palace including local musical entertainment and a celebratory cup of glühwein.

Many members took advantage of our guided optional day trips. Our first excursion included stopping in the quaint town of Rattenburg, known for their plentiful glass blowing and carving artists, then traveled on for a fabulous tour of the charming city of Salzburg. As David Jarl stated, *"I've been on many day trips and our tour guide was outstanding. If you rate guides 1 to 10...he's an 11!"* Needless to say, I requested him again for all our tours. We made special arrangements with a private driver to take six people to Venice for the day, which allowed them to check this one off their "bucket list"! Several traveled to Bolzano, which is famous for the home of "Otzi" – a 500 year old mummified "Ice Age Man". People commented on how fascinating and educational all this was, and that the tour exceeded their expectations. They then got a taste of the Southern Austrian landscape while continuing on to Vipiteno, Italy.

While traveling through some of the most spectacular Tyrol region countryside, many enjoyed a trip to the Bavarian Castles, which included the Neuschwanstein Castle used for the Disneyland Castle design. Before touring the castle, the group experienced the town of Oberammergau which is where the well known "Passion Play" has been held every 10 years since 1634.

On our final Innsbruck evening, some of us went to an Authentic Tyrolean Show which included music using several period instruments, slap-dancing, yodeling and lots of



**Jim Stewart enjoys the side trip to Ischel Resort near Innsbruck on the 2013 Far West International Ski Week to Austria.**

*photo by Gloria Raminha*

singing and dancing. Their family run show was not only authentic, but very charming to say the least. They even sang Yankee Doodle Dandy for those of us from the U.S.!

On Sunday, 29 members left to either travel home or adventure elsewhere and the remaining 57 traveled by bus to Garmisch-Partenkirchen. About 31 members took the walking tour to get a lay of the land and learn the history and the culture of the area prior to our welcome orientation. We received a welcome from Peter Nagel, Tourism Director, who provided information regarding the ski resorts and arranged an outstanding offer for rental equipment for our members. Our farewell dinner was held at the charming Werdenfellerhof Restaurant, where we enjoyed an Authentic Bavarian Dinner with Tyrolean music and entertainment. After spending five nights in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, we traveled to Munich to receive a half day tour of the city then everyone was free to experience Munich as they desired until traveling home. Linda Boll-Dow said, *"I've been on many trips, but I've never been on one that's been a 10, 10, 10 in every aspect of the trip. I really appreciate the trip's leadership in which everything is taken care of and done with such a friendly smile."*

## **FWSA 2013 – 4th Annual Dive Trip:**

The annual FWSA scuba diving trip was held September 7 – 14, 2013 at the Sea Breeze Hotel on the shoreland of Corozal Bay in Belize. The participants enjoyed the spectacular diving, food, and culture of this English speaking country in Central America. Ramon's Village Divers is a PADI 5-Star operation with great dive masters that led us around the second largest barrier reef in the world, seeing stingrays, turtles, moray eels, sharks, numerous types of fish and beautiful coral formations. Several participants also visited mainland Belize to tour the Mayan ruins and the wildlife sanctuary.



**2014 International  
Ski Week  
Zermatt,  
Switzerland  
March 8-15, 2014**



**... With  
an extension  
to Spain!**

*The Matterhorn rests on the border between Switzerland and Italy. Its summit is 4,478 meters high (14,690 feet) making it one of the highest peaks in the European Alps. It is also one of the most recognizable peaks in the Swiss Alps. The peak has four faces, each facing the four compass points. The east and north faces are visible from the town of Zermatt.*

*photo by Jimmy Petterson*

Our FWSA International Ski Week, March 8 - 15, 2014, will be in Zermatt, Switzerland with an extension from March 15 - 23 to Barcelona and Madrid, Spain. Zermatt, Switzerland's best-known ski resort, has the highest concentration of mountains and glacial ice in the Alps; and the most magical and romantic car-free village situated at the foot of Switzerland's most famous landmark: the Matterhorn. It is considered by many true mountaineers to be the peak of all peaks.

You will find a wide range of possibilities for the experienced skier and many wide open groomed runs for the intermediate and beginning skier. Ski in both Switzerland and Italy in one day when you ski over the peak to Cervinia. Combined with the spectacular natural beauty, Zermatt is a record-holding destination which includes Europe's longest ski run with 25km, the highest-altitude sightseeing platform in the Alps, Europe's highest-altitude aerial cableway to the Matterhorn glacier paradise, Europe's highest-altitude cogwheel railway in the open air (no tunnels), to the Gornergrat at over 10,000 ft.

Some people ask, "Why Zermatt?" I tell them that Zermatt is one of Europe's premiere ski resort! While it can be one of the more expensive, it is one of the most desired ski resorts in Europe. Our members will fly non-stop to Zurich, have an overnight there which will make our transition to European time much

easier and our transfer to Zermatt more comfortable and enjoyable. We will spend seven nights in one of three extraordinary hotels with various prices to meet all budgets which are quite normal for Switzerland. Breakfast and dinner is included daily. While offering Zermatt, FWSA is providing our members an excellent opportunity to ski the World Famous and World Class destination that many have desired to experience, and those who already know it, love it and have been waiting for FWSA to return.

Our Spain extension will be an adventure within itself - a complete trip on its own. If you choose to not go to Zermatt, we'll make arrangements to fly you to Barcelona to join us just for the Spain adventure trip. We will spend the first four nights in Barcelona then we will take the high speed train to Madrid for the next four nights. This will be an all-inclusive tour including charming 4-star hotels staying in unique and convenient locations. Most meals are included, giving us the opportunity to experience local restaurants with their cultural culinary delights. This tour is completely escorted which will include daily excursions that will be guided by local representatives. You will receive all the value and benefits of traveling to Spain with FWSA. This will be a unique, exciting and exceptional trip to be remembered!

**NOTE: See the article about Zermatt beginning on page 56.**

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## FWSA Adventure Trip - 2014: South Africa



*The Kariega Game Reserve is home to the "Big 5", as well as numerous other species of wildlife. photos courtesy of Kariega Game Reserve*

# Lions, Rhinos, and Elephants...Oh my!

FWSA's 2014 Adventure Trip will be to South Africa, September 6-16 with an extension to Victoria Falls, September 16-19. This African trip will certainly be a unique experience offering much more than the normal gaming safaris. You will also travel through the garden route in South Africa, visit botanical gardens, travel through the winelands area to enjoy wine tastings, view native birds in their natural habitat, experience animal viewing while river boat cruising and so much more. While traveling to South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana you will enjoy the true African safari experience. We will search to see the "Big 5" and many other animals and native birds in the wild. This trip will be an experience of a lifetime and one you will always remember!

We will start our journey at the Kariega Game Reserve, which is a family-owned and operated private game reserve in South Africa stretching across 9,000 hectares of pristine wilderness in the Eastern Cape. The Reserve is situated along the famous Garden Route, making it the perfect South African safari destination to compliment a Cape Town visit and a trip along the country's beautiful coast. This malaria-free South African game park is home to some of the richest biodiversity in Southern Africa, as well as two abundant rivers – the picturesque Kariega and Bush-

man's Rivers. It's a fabulous choice for safaris in South Africa, incorporating luxury safari lodge accommodations, magnificent game viewing, plus breathtaking vistas over the hills, valleys and rivers. Kariega Game Reserve offers the ultimate in authentic South African safari holidays. Experience close up viewing of the Big 5 – lions, elephants, rhinos, leopards and buffalo – as well as multitudes of other South African safari wildlife from the comfort of an open game drive vehicle.

We will also be traveling to areas such as Tsitsikamma/Garden Route National Park, the Knysna Lagoon to the Featherbed Nature Reserve, journey up the Outeniqua Pass to Oudtshoorn where we'll explore the privately-owned, registered Nature Reserve and the South African Heritage Site, No. 59. We'll then travel to the Cango Caves for a fantastic caving experience. After this, there will be a stop at an ostrich farm before arriving in Cape Town for our day tour.

The extension will be to Victoria Falls – one of the great wonders of the world. Victoria Falls, on the border, between Zimbabwe and Zambia, has some of the most breath taking views you'll ever encounter on the African continent, if not in the world. The massive sheet of falling water and the spray it produces is mesmerizing to say the least. The

nearby Victoria Falls National Park and the towns of Victoria Falls and Livingstone offer additional pleasures to the discerning visitor. The Victoria Falls is one of the most popular attractions in Southern Africa, where you can explore the African wilderness, as Dr. Livingstone did so many years ago. This trip will be a very memorable experience and one you won't want to miss!

Online registration available.



*The falls are known as Mosi-oa-Tunya or Tokaleya Tonga to the natives. Those words translate to "The Smoke that Thunders". Victoria Falls is located in southern Africa on the Zambezi River separating Zambia from Zimbabwe. It is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. [www.intoafrica.com](http://www.intoafrica.com)*





underwater photography by Randy Lev



Val d'Isère is situated in the Rhône Alps just three miles from the Italian border. leski.com

#### ■ FWSA 2014 – 5th Annual Dive Trip:

The 2014 dive trip will be just as spectacular as Belize. We are looking at either Cozumel or Bonaire. We hope that you will be able to join us.

#### ■ FWSA 2015 International Ski and Adventure Extension Trip: France

In March, we will be traveling to Val d'Isère, France for a week of outstanding skiing with days in Paris and an extension to the Provence region. Details to follow.

#### ■ FWSA 2016 International Adventure Extension: England & Ireland

In the fall of 2016, we will be exploring the English countryside, days in London and traveling through Ireland for our bi-annual international adventure trip. Details to follow.

### Planning for Future FWSA Ski & Adventure Trips:

In order to provide our members the best travel experience, it is important to explore relationships with new tour operators and restore relationships with previous companies.

We now have a core international travel team to provide our members added value, offering seamless ease of travel, and exciting experiences that our members have come to expect from us in an even more inviting and sophisticated way. We are excited to see families and youth join our FWSA family. Most trips, activities and events are family friendly and family members are encouraged to attend. We are now planning future travel, trips and

events further in advance so one can dedicate their FWSA travel dollars. You write the check, we'll do the rest!

*"Hope to see you all on the plane, train, bus and the slopes having an exceptional travel experience. Let's embrace the world with FWSA's International Travel Program and adventures to be discovered".*

To receive updates on the FWSA International Travel Program: E-mail Debbie Stewart, FWSA VP of International Travel at:

FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net

Website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) ▲

## South Africa 10 Day Eastern Cape & Garden Route Tour

South Africa, September 2014



#### ITINERARY

Day 1: Travel to Kariega Game Reserve  
Day 2-4: Kariega Private Game Reserve  
Day 5: Tsitsikamma to Outdshoorn  
Day 6: Outdshoorn to Cape Town  
Day 7-10: Cape Town  
Day 10: Cape Town - Depart

For more information, contact:  
Holly Gagnon, Group Sales Manager  
Email: [holly@alpineadventures.net](mailto:holly@alpineadventures.net)  
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Day 4: Depart Victoria Falls.

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*Participants  
await their  
turn to race  
down the  
course in  
Aspen,  
Colorado.  
photo by  
Ken Calkins*

## Why Do We Race?

by Bob Ellis

President, FWRA / Vice-President of Racing, FWSA

Why do we race? Because it is fun, exciting, competitive, individual, instructive and social. The Far West Racing Association provides races for any ability of skier or boarder, and then, we break them down by age, gender and skill level, so all of our racers are competing with other racers in the same category. On any given day, Far West racers in any class can win in their class. In our races, we do not separate our racers only by age, but also by skill level, so they are not competing with past-Olympians unless they work their way into that class. Most of us are weekend warriors that ski or race whenever we get a chance, and when we get a chance, we want to make the most of it.

When our racers go down our race courses, they are going down a run all by themselves with no one else skiing down the hill at the same time, and our racers can go as fast or slow as they want without being cited by a Ski Patrolman for skiing too fast amongst the public.

The thrill of skiing and boarding is the challenge of the slope of the hill and the speed we get while flying down the mountain. Racing naturally makes skiers and boarders better athletes by forcing them to turn where they normally would not turn. Almost everybody I have seen racing has improved due to the extra effort required by going down a race course.

Obviously, not everybody wants to race or enjoys the competition, but where else can you be the only person on the ski run for one to two minutes without fear of being run into by another person.

When we run our races, we try to schedule them to be punctual and efficient so we can get our participants down the courses as quickly as possible, so they can go off and enjoy skiing the rest of the mountain. We understand that their time is important, especially on a bluebird ski day. We also run

several courses, not one course for everybody. We set a course for beginners and novice participants so they can progress at their own speed and move up to the next harder course when they improve.

We also try to schedule the race times so participants have plenty of time to make it to the courses, and we also base the start times on the predicted snow conditions. If we believe the snow conditions are going to be very firm in the morning, we normally will schedule the upper level racers in the morning when the conditions are more challenging, and the novice racers will end up getting better snow conditions in the afternoon when they would race. Sometimes we run into delays because of weather or timing, but most of the time, we are on schedule.

Our goals are to put on a safe event that is punctual, fun and challenging for the participants. We want to allow them to see their times immediately, and an area where they can congregate safely afterwards and share their experiences with their friends about the race course. We are recreational racers that enjoy the courses, the challenges of the mountains, the social aspect, and also receiving the awards for good results.

The Far West Racing Program is different from any other program in the U.S. It was smartly designed back in the 1970's to encourage participation for all abilities and ages of participants. We also conduct clinics to help our racers improve and allow them to have a chance to practice.

Next year, we will be racing at Beaver Creek during the *Far West Ski Week*, and the *Far West Championships* will be held on April 4-6, 2014 at Mammoth Mountain. The *ROKKA Race Camp* will be at Mammoth Mountain starting on January 6 and ending on January 10, 2014. I encourage all of you to try racing just once. There is a very good chance that you will enjoy it. ▲▲





*Racing at the FWSA Ski Week is open to all racers and leagues.  
Bob Ellis, president of FWRA, is numero uno!*

*photos by Ken Calkins - taken during the FWSA Ski Week in Aspen*

## 2014 FWRA Race Schedule

Date	Format	Location
<b>OPEN/SIERRA/SINGLES LEAGUES</b>		
January 4	GS	Squaw - Singles/Sierra Leagues Only #1
January 4	GS	Alpine Meadows - Open League Only #1
January 5	GS	Squaw - All Leagues #2
February 8	SL	Northstar #3
February 9	SL	Northstar #4
February 15 - 16	Sierra Clinics	Boreal - All leagues invited
February 22	Super G Clinic	Northstar
February 23	Super G Race	Northstar #5
March 1	SL	Alpine #6
March 2	GS	Alpine #7
March 22	GS	Homewood #8
March 23	GS	Homewood #9

### PACRAT LEAGUE

January 5	NASTAR Open	Mt. Hood Skibowl
January 12	Race #1	Mt. Hood Skibowl
January 26	Race #2	Mt. Hood Meadows
February 9	Race #3	Mt. Hood Skibowl
March 2	NASTAR Open	Mt. Hood Skibowl
March 16	Race #4	Mt. Hood Meadows
March 30	Race #5	Timberline
April 6	Make up race, if needed	Timberline
April 19	Rat Attack Awards Party	Location TBD

### ROKKA/ULLR LEAGUES (SCHUSSKI & SAN DIEGO-SEE ULLR LEAGUE)

December 13	Clinic	Mammoth
December 14	GS	Mammoth #1
December 16 - 20	LAC Ski & Board Race Week	Mammoth
January 6 - 10, 2014	ROKKA Ski & Race Week	Mammoth
January 10	Clinic	Mammoth
January 11	SL	Mammoth #2
February 21	Clinic	Mammoth
February 22	GS	Mammoth #3
March TBD	Race Practice	Mt. Baldy
March 21	Clinic	Mammoth
March 22	GS	Mammoth #4
March 23	SL	Mammoth #5

### ALL LEAGUES

January 25 - February 1	FWSA Ski Week	Beaver Creek, CO
	GS/SL	
April 4	FWRA Championships	Mammoth
	Pacesetter /Clinic	
April 5	Championships-SL	Mammoth
April 6	Championships-GS	Mammoth



*Top: Debi Phelps, Open League Race Chair, received the trophy for Race League with the most points at the 2013 Alpine Meadows Championships. The trophy was presented by Bob Ellis.*

*Lower: John Walsh, Singles League Race Chair received the Roma McCoy Trophy - given to Singles Race League for the most points per racer at the 2013 Alpine Meadows Championships. photos by Ken Calkins*



# The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program Helps Junior Racers

by Dick Shawkey

Athletic Scholarship Committee Chair, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is beginning its 10th year. The Athletic Scholarship Program has grown from a modest \$1,500 and two recipients in 2004, to \$15,000 and 18-19 recipients in 2013. The 2013 scholarships will bring the total awarded to over \$75,000 and over 100 recipients.

The scholarship program was initiated to provide financial assistance to deserving young ski racers. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers licensed by the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) and must participate in racing programs in the states represented by the councils of the FWSA in the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, academic performance, athletic achievement and community service. Additional information is available at the FWSA website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

Why provide assistance to junior racers? After all, skiing is an expensive sport and shouldn't parents foot the bill? Well, for the most part they do. For the younger athletes, the costs are modest. Most competition is at the local level. However, for 16 through 20 year olds, the competition becomes national and even international. Some examples include: the U.S. Nationals in California, the Nor-Ams in Canada and Colorado, the Wildwest Classic Elite FIS Series in Wyoming, the Northwest Cup in Washington, the Alaska State Downhill Championships, and the Western Region Junior Championships in Idaho. It is not unusual for a top athlete to compete in 40-45 races during the regular winter season; virtually every weekend except during the Christmas holiday.



**Kayleigh MacGregor and Lila Lapanja were two of the Athletic Scholarship Recipients. Both were special guests at the Far West Ski Association Convention in June.**

*photo by Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

For a top competitor, expenses can reach \$20,000 per season. These athletes don't begin their training when the snow flies in the fall. Dryland training begins shortly after the winter yields to spring. Summer camps, both in the U.S. and abroad, help bridge the gap between seasons. These camps typically run about \$1,200 per week, not including transportation.

Winter training is in the area of \$1,000 - \$1,500 per season. Most applicants work part time jobs to help out. These athletes have to balance the demands of training, competition, and work with their academic responsibilities. Despite all these demands, the average GPA for

our scholarship recipients has been consistently over 3.9. While our scholarships are modest in relation to the need, they do provide assistance that may make a difference for an athlete on a tight budget.

Funding for the scholarships is derived from a number of sources: raffles, auctions, club/council sponsorships, and direct contributions. The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program has greatly benefited from the generosity of its sponsors: *Whitefish Mountain Resort* ([www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)), a year around family fun destination; *Grouse Mountain Lodge* ([www.grousemountainlodge.com](http://www.grousemountainlodge.com)), the premier choice in mountain resorts; *Schure Sports Inc.* ([www.karbonmail.com](http://www.karbonmail.com)), maker of the Karbon brand of snowsports apparel; and the *Far West Racing Association*. Their contributions of vacation packages, winter sportswear, and cash brought in over \$10,000 in this year's fund raisers.

Our partnership program whereby councils and clubs are afforded the opportunity for direct sponsorship of athletes accounted for one third of last year's scholarship funds. Finally, the *Far West Ski Foundation* ([www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org)), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, established to support and enhance snowsports in the western U.S., is becoming a valuable resource for encouraging tax exempt donations. ▲▲



*photo provided by Dick Shawkey*

**Molly Leavens, from Park City, Utah, received a FWSA Athletic Scholarship. She recently spent time training in La Parva, Chile with the Park City Ski Team advancing her skills as a competitor.**





*Lila Lapanja, on the Junior U.S. Ski Team, has won back-to-back junior combined titles at the Nature Valley U.S. Alpine Championships. She also landed a top 10 in both the NorAm slalom and super combined standings during the 2013 season. Plus, she earned a 15th in slalom at her first Junior World Championships. Lila is from Incline Village, NV and is a Far West Scholarship winner. She was selected for the US Ski Team, and for summer 2013, commenced the physical training program at USSA Park City and trained in New Zealand. She interrupted her Center of Excellence training for a brief round trip to Tahoe to graduate from High School with her classmates.*



*MIDDLE: Mary Totten is from Boise, ID. LOWER: Ali Gunesch is from Government Camp, OR. Both are 2012-2013 Athletic Scholarship winners.*

*photos provided by John Watson*



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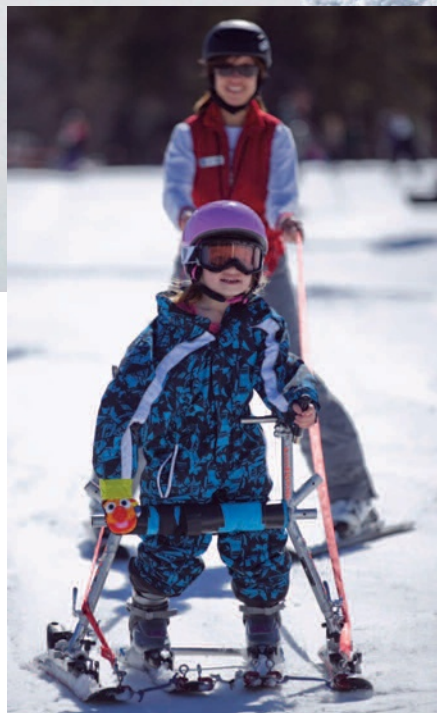
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*Jessica Jerome, Women's Ski Jumping USA team member, takes flight at the 2013 World Ski Jumping Championships in Val di Fiemme, Italy. photo by Sarah Brunson/USSA*

**1** The most time-urgent of our passions is the competition by our lady ski jumpers in the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, in February, 2014. The team has been selected for the first-ever Olympic competition in women's ski jumping. This comes four years after the jumpers were ruled out of the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, BC. The Foundation was founded in 1964 to develop competitors for the 1968 Olympics and our efforts since 2010 represent a return to these roots. Training has started and a number of jumping events are in front of them before they get to Sochi. They are Ready to Fly! Almost all of these jumpers live and train in Park City, so these are Far West athletes. The directors of the Far West Ski Association and Foundation have launched the drive for organized skiing with \$2,000 to WSJUSA (the USA organization for lady jumpers). But, the jumpers have a target of \$100,000. Make your investment now, using the methods in the "how to contribute" box on the next page.



**2** Our passion is for on-snow rehabilitative activities because they can have the greatest beneficial impact today within the snowsports community and can introduce persons with new injuries to commence a program of skiing as a major element of their restoration to activity. Their successful use of adaptive skiing and recreation will have a lifelong impact on snowsports. If they can do this, they can do anything. And, we're all the better for it. This is one of four major missions of the Foundation. We're aiming for annual events having the greatest impact to enable disabled skiers and then getting them on the hill to ski with all skiers.

# Pursue Your Passions Through The Far West Ski Foundation!

by John Watson  
President, FWSF



*The Underkoffler brothers (Lukas, shown, and Cody) are with the Mammoth Mountain Race Team, live in Crowley Lake, California and are recipients of an Athletic Scholarship. photo provided by Dick Shawkey*

**3** Another of our passions with lifelong impact on snowsports is the Athletic Scholarship Program, which FWSF augments along with FWSA funds with grants to racing teams hosted at ski areas. These teams provide logistics, guidance and coaching for their group of competitors. What makes this program different from training skiers for the national teams are the Foundation objectives for these junior racers. The Foundation is looking forward to these racers becoming positive leadership forces in their community and in snowsports. Advancing to the national team level would be a bonus. These under-18 athletes are selected from many applicants on the basis of athletic performance, scholarship and community service (as well as need). They are an investment in the future of snowsports and its role in communities.

*MIDDLE PHOTO: The Far West Ski Foundation dedicates itself to assisting adaptive snowsport programs like the ones offered by the United States Adaptive Recreation Center. The USARC has earned a national and international reputation as a model program in adaptive outdoor recreation for both winter and summer activities. USARC personnel have served in training programs throughout the United States and the world. photo courtesy of USARC, Bear Mountain, CA*





*The Squaw Valley Olympic Museum and Winter Sports Heritage Center proposed building site will be across the street from the Tower of Nations sculpture on the road to Squaw Valley. The above picture was taken during the opening ceremonies of the 1960 Winter Olympics. courtesy of Squaw Valley / Robert Reid photographer*

Our passion which will have the longest continuing impact is the Squaw Valley Olympic Museum and Winter Sports Heritage Center to be built at the entrance to Squaw Valley, the site of the 1960 Winter Olympics. The design concepts for the Center and the approvals from Placer County and the US Forest Service have been achieved. There could be several years of construction after sufficient startup resources are obtained. This will be the major archive for snowsports history in California and Nevada. US ski history started in California with clubs, racing leagues and racing over 150 years ago. The museum will house a Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. This is a multimillion dollar project and when completed worth every penny. It will be a learning center, a repository for donated private collections, an authoritative source for historical information and a worldwide tourism attraction.

The Far West Ski Foundation is a public benefit 501(c)(3) corporation and your contributions - investments - in these passions are tax deductible. The box below shows the ways you can invest. ▲▲

### **PURSUE YOUR PASSION**

Ways to contribute include: PayPal through our website <http://farwestskifoundation.org> or check mailed to **John Rinehardt**, FWSF Treasurer, 5285 Meadows Road #380, Lake Oswego, OR 97035; or to **John Watson**, FWSF President, Box 861, Fallbrook, CA 92088. Note on your check the passion to which this is to be directed. In the case of electronic contributions, send us an email to [fwsfpresident@gmail.com](mailto:fwsfpresident@gmail.com) so that we may properly direct your contribution. This also helps us to thank you and provide a record of your contribution.

## **Hope on the Slopes Events**

by **Charlene Piercy**

*Executive Director, Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure*

Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure is a fundraising event for skiers and boarders, held at ski areas around the country. The organization is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that benefits the American Cancer Society, and supports their mission to eliminate cancer as a major health problem through prevention, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education advocacy and service.

Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure has partnered with the American Cancer Society to manage events and collect donations to support programs and services. Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure events allow skiers, boarders, resorts and ski areas, industry manufacturers and distributors, and organizations and groups to become more involved with this great cause.

Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure is an idea that began at White Pass Ski Area in Washington State in 2003. In 2014, there will be over 20 events nationwide. Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure has raised over \$3 million in char-



*The goal of the Hope on the Slopes is not only to have fun, but also raise money for the American Cancer Society. Pledges raised help fund research and educate the public for prevention and early detection, as well as assist patients and their families. courtesy of Hope on the Slopes*

itable gifts to help save lives and benefit people suffering from cancer. Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure is a fun, competitive, family-friendly event. Individuals of all ages and skills are welcome to participate. Individuals and teams of up to 15 participants compete for top fundraising and most vertical feet. For more details about Hope on the Slopes, Ski & Ride for a Cure, and/or to participate in an upcoming event, please visit our website at [www.hopeontheslopes.net](http://www.hopeontheslopes.net).

### **Dates and Locations for 2014 Events**

February 8	Mountain High, California (9am to 9pm)
February 22	Breckenridge, Colorado (9am to 3pm)
February 22	Mt. Spokane, Washington (9am to 3pm)
March 1 & 2	Stevens Pass, Washington (10am to 10am)
March 8 & 9	Mt. Hood Skibowl, Oregon (10am to 10am)
March 15 & 16	White Pass, Washington (10am to 10am)
March 22	Crystal Mountain, Washington (9am to 3pm)
April 5	Eaglecrest, Alaska (9am to 3pm)

### **TBD:**

Northstar, California, Silverton, Idaho, Steamboat, Colorado, and Snowmass, Colorado

**Try snowshoeing and cross country skiing for FREE**

### **Winter Trails Day**

**Saturday, January 11, 2014**

Snowshoeing and cross country skiing are fun for all ages making them perfect for families and groups. Winter Trails Day involves almost 100 resorts and Nordic Centers nationwide. Find a site near you:

[www.snowlink.com/wintertrails.aspx](http://www.snowlink.com/wintertrails.aspx)

Also see article on Nordic skiing in the digital edition insert.





*FROM LEFT: River rafting on the Truckee River was a popular event, photo provided by Dana Rains, Keystone Resort. Silent Auction Bid Runners were from the Disabled Sports USA Far West Snowsports Program. Beach Party attendees were busy getting signatures for their beach balls, photos by Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

## Mountain Magic Moments at the 81st Annual FWSA Convention

by Jane Wyckoff  
Convention Chair, FWSA



*ABOVE: On Friday evening, Silent Auction attendees visited industry booths and mingled with friends at the Welcome Party hosted by Ski Dazzle. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet resort representatives, learn about different resorts and make decisions about future club travel plans. LEFT: The guitarist is from the band "One Track Mind". The band provided the musical entertainment for the Saturday Awards Banquet. The leader of this band is Warren Martineau, from Forest Suites Resort in South Lake Tahoe.*

The 81st Annual Far West Ski Association Convention held at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada, June 6-9, 2013 was one for the record books. Our host, Bay Area Snow Sports Council, did an outstanding job in drawing a large attendance. From the Thursday evening River Walk Pub Crawl to the closing gavel on Sunday, there were many educational and fun activities, special guests and *Mountain Magic Moments* to remember.

Our kick-off event was the Thursday evening River Walk Pub Crawl along the historic Truckee River. Golf enthusiasts had an early start on Friday morning for the 7th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament held at the LakeRidge Golf Course, with

brehtaking views of Reno and the surrounding mountains. The adventurous packed their gear and participated in the White Water Rafting Trip down the Truckee River or ventured off on a hike along the Tahoe Rim Trail to the Mt. Rose Summit. Those who wanted a more relaxing day had a spa treatment with luncheon in a cabana by the spacious pool at the Grand Sierra Resort, or a "Fun Day" featuring Miniature Golf, Bowling and Pai Gow Lessons. A late afternoon "beach party" was held at the Grand Sierra beach adjoining the outdoor pool, hosted by Central Council, complete with a beach ball signage competition for prizes.

On Friday evening a Ski Club Happy Hour preceded the 28th Annual Silent Auc-

tion with close to \$100,000 in ski, sport and adventure packages, plus equipment up for bid. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the Disabled Sports USA Far West SnowSports Program. Volunteers from DSUSA served as bid runners for the event.

After a brief, opening General Session, Saturday's programs featured the Travel Expo, two new modules of the Snowsports Leadership Academy, Public Affairs Panels, a Far West Racing Association meeting, and an Outstanding Club / Council Recognition Programs panel. Industry partners presented bids for Far West Ski Week 2015 and judges convened to interview honorees for the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year recognition program. A Multi-Media Presentation followed the



*Steve Elkins, Los Angeles Council's Man of the Year, discusses the new Crested Butte Master Plan with Seth Tucker, Sales Representative.*



*Members of the Convention Steering Committee enjoying the Awards Banquet are: Mary Olhausen, Silent Auction / Travel Expo Chair; Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chair; Sigrid Noack, Travel Expo Coordinator; and Debbi Kor, Vice-President of Marketing and Sponsorship.*



*LEFT: Harry Davis, Silent Auction Auctioneer, announces bid winners with the assistance of his wife, Karen. ABOVE: Delegates had the opportunity to bid on trips to their favorite resorts, as well as get the latest scoop on summer resort improvements.*

Luncheon and special awards, with our Keynote Speaker, Candace Cable, a 9-time Paralympian. Her multi-media presentation was heartwarming and inspiring as we followed her life journey. The Awards Banquet Saturday evening featured volunteer and industry service awards and recognitions, plus dancing, with a special surprise dance performance.

The General Session was conducted on Sunday for FWSA business and elections. Randy Lew was honored for his outstanding dedication and service to the Far West Ski Association as President for the past seven years. Linda Scott from Cheyenne, Wyoming took over the helm as the newly elected President. Clubs and councils were recognized for their outstanding community service efforts, and

the Outstanding Club and Council Awards, and Club and Council Communication Awards were presented.

This section of the *Far West Skier's Guide* contains detailed information and pictures highlighting our many FWSA programs conducted at the Annual FWSA Convention. We are truly appreciative of the team of volunteers involved with conducting our annual event. We also extend a special thank you to our industry partners who support our Association by participating in the industry programs at our Convention.

Make plans now to join us in at The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center in Bend, Oregon June 12-15, 2014 for our 82nd Annual FWSA Convention. ▲▲

**Attendees  
at the  
Annual  
FWSA  
Convention  
enjoy  
many  
events and  
activities.  
Join friends  
from  
around  
the councils  
and meet  
new ones.**

# CONVENTION 2013



# Event Sponsors for the 81st Annual FWSA Convention

by **Debbi Kor**

*Vice-President of Marketing and Sponsorship, FWSA*

We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 81st Annual Convention. Their generous support was a significant contribution to the financial success of this year's convention. By offsetting Convention costs, through the sponsorship program, we are able to offer a more affordable delegate registration fee. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2013-2014.

Delegate Neck Wallets	Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge
Delegate Tote Bags	Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitor's Authority
Pub Crawl	Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation
Golf Tournament	Bay Area Snow Sports Council Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs Northwest Ski Club Council Orange Council of Ski Clubs San Diego Council of Ski Clubs
River Run Rafting Trip	Brian Head Ski Resort
Grand Sierra Spa Day	Aspen/Snowmass Snowmass Tourism
Silent Auction Welcome Party	Ski Dazzle
Silent Auction DJ	Jackson Hole Mountain Resort Jackson Hole Resort Lodging
Beach Party	Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort
Saturday Continental Breakfast	Mammoth Mountain Ski Area
Saturday Luncheon Beverage	Whistler Blackcomb Ski Resort Coast Blackcomb Suites at Whistler Fairmont Hotel & Resort
Saturday Luncheon	Vail Resorts (Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone, Kirkwood, Heavenly, Northstar and The Canyons)
Multi-Media Presentation	Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort Sunriver Resort
Awards Banquet Beverage	Sports America Tours
Awards Banquet Beverage Service	Ski.Com Ski Group. Net
Awards Banquet Band	Holidaze Ski Tours Telluride Ski Resort
Sunday Morning Brunch	Taos Ski Valley Resort
Council's Man & Woman of the Year	Big White Ski Resort
FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program	Whitefish Mountain Resort Grouse Mountain Lodge Schure Sports USA
Grand Prize Travel Expo	Far West Ski Association Travel Program
Eye Opener	Bay Area Snow Sports Council
Delegate Handbooks - Printing	Wyle
FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award	Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation
FWSA Safety Person of the Year	Aspen/Snowmass



*Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort was honored with the Tommi Tyndall Award. Receiving the plaque from Randy Lew were Terese Jarvis and Drew Jackson. Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

## Mt. Bachelor Recognized with Tommi Tyndall Award

by **Gene Fulkerson & Mary Olhausen**

Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort received the Far West Ski Association's Tommi Tyndall Award, presented to a ski area that has made a distinguished contribution to skiing. Accepting the Award at the 81st Annual FWSA Convention in Reno, NV on behalf of the Mt. Bachelor was Drew Jackson, Marketing and Communications Manager, and Terese Jarvis, Group Sales Associate.

Mt. Bachelor, operating since 1958, was formed 11,000 to 15,000 years ago as a volcano shield. The resort is one of the largest in the Pacific Northwest with 3,683 skiable acres, a vertical drop of 3,365 feet and rises over 9,000 feet. Mt. Bachelor is about to get bigger with a new chairlift and associated trails, replacement of some existing lifts, expanding snow-making coverage, construction of a lift-served downhill mountain bike park and additions to the Nordic trail.

This year, Mt. Bachelor hosted the second annual FWSA Mini Ski Week. It was a huge success with lots of skiing and innovative events offered, including a moonlight snowshoe walk.

In its fifth year, "Mt. Bachelor Charity Ski Weeks" provides assistance to several charitable/non-profit organizations in Central Oregon. Mt. Bachelor provides lift ticket vouchers to non-profit organizations that can be redeemed for a \$25 full day lift ticket to be used during Charity Ski Weeks. Mt. Bachelor contributes 100% of the proceeds back to the non-profit organizations.

For the past seven years, Mt. Bachelor has supported the Ski-For-Schools Program fundraiser to benefit the Education Founda-



tions for Bend/La Pine and Redmond Schools. Mt. Bachelor generously donates ALL Ski-for-Schools revenue back to the Foundations, raising more than \$135,000 to benefit local schools over the last seven years.

In addition, Mt. Bachelor supports Riders For The Cure, Oregon Special Olympics Winter Games, Stuff The Bus food drive, Shred Camp with U.S. Ski Team member Laurenne Ross and National Ski Safety Week with a focus on chairlift safety for kids.

Mt. Bachelor has been at the forefront of the environmental movement within the ski industry. Over the past decade, they have developed a strong environmental presence that has brought them to a leading position within the industry. This year and for the past several years, the Ski Area Citizen's Coalition recognized Mt. Bachelor as one of the top 10 environmentally conscious resorts in the U.S.

Mt. Bachelor's continued support of the Far West Ski Association has remained solid. Mt. Bachelor ranks high among our industry partners in their financial support of the As-

sociation's programs. This year's Convention will mark Mt. Bachelor's 28th year of participation in our Silent Auction.

It is in support of FWSA's sponsorship program, Mt. Bachelor sets an industry standard of excellence. In 2007 they hosted the Far West Racing Association (FWRA) Championships. In 2008 Mt. Bachelor provided the beverage for the Awards Banquet. In 2008, together with Sunriver Resort, they hosted the Far West Ski Association Winter Board of Director's meeting. Since 2009 they have sponsored the Pool Party at the Annual FWSA Convention, and they attempt to out do themselves each year. In 2012 they brought in a mechanical bull for the Pool Party! Since the 2010 Convention they have co-sponsored the Multi-Media Presentation with Sunriver Resort.

For its outstanding support of the snowsports public and Far West Ski Association, councils and clubs, Mt. Bachelor embodies the spirit of the Tommi Tyndall Award and is highly deserving of recognition as this year's recipient. ▲▲

## Door Prize Donors: Convention 2013

Beaver Creek  
Beaver Run Resort  
Central Oregon Visitors Association  
Chaos  
Copper Mountain  
Great Basin Brewing Company  
Keystone Ski Resort  
Monterey Ski & Social Club  
Nautic Adventures  
Pole Clips  
Powderhorn Mountain  
Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority  
Scheel's Sporting Goods, Reno  
Ski Utah  
Smith Optics  
Swany  
The Cruise Company



*Randy Lew presented the Bill Mackey Award to Brandon Bang from Big Sky.*

*Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

## Brandon Bang Receives Bill Mackey Award

by Gloria Raminha & Randy Lew

Brandon Bang, Director of Sales and Marketing for Big Sky Resort, Montana, received the Far West Ski Association's Bill Mackey Award for outstanding service to the skiing public by a ski area employee. This award was presented to Brandon at the annual FWSA Convention in Reno.

Brandon has been working in the ski industry for over 20 years. Skiing, golf, great friends and the love of the mountain are the reasons he is a very happy long time local to

Big Sky. He started his career at Big Sky after receiving a double major in marketing and management from the University of North Dakota.

During his years at Big Sky, Brandon has worked at the front desk, accounting, reservations and managerial roles before beginning his sales career at Big Sky as National Sales Manager in 1998. In 2008 Brandon was promoted to Director of Sales. Under Brandon's marketing leadership, Big Sky has been a long time supporter of the Far West Ski Association and at the 2009 FWSA Convention, Big Sky received the Tommi Tyndall award.

In January of 2009, Far West Ski Week was held at Big Sky. This event was successful from the first sales presentation to planning to check-in to the on mountain activities, due primarily to Brandon's involvement in every aspect of the ski week. Brandon's intimate knowledge of the resort, positive attitude, big smile, handshakes and hugs shows he is genuinely friendly to all who are around him. All aspects of the trip (lodging, skiing, racing, parties, food, etc.) were outstanding.

In December of 2012, on the day of his 20th Anniversary at Big Sky Resort, Brandon was promoted to the Director of Sales and Marketing.

Because of Brandon Bang's continued and long-term efforts on behalf of Far West Ski Association, our clubs and councils, and his outstanding support of the snowsport community, he is truly deserving of the Bill Mackey Award. ▲▲

## Milestones: Convention 2013

### 5 Year Award

Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge  
Coast Blackcomb Suites - Whistler  
El Monte Sagrado Resort & Spa

### 10 Year Award

Brundage Mountain Ski Resort  
Resorts of the Canadian Rockies  
The Lodge at Whitefish Lake

### 15 Year Award

Jackson Hole Resort Lodging  
Red Mountain Resort

### 20 Year Award

Copper Mountain Ski Resort  
Aston Lakeland Village  
Snakedance Condominiums

### 25 Year Award

Aspen Skiing Company  
Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine  
Sun Valley Ski Resort  
Taos Ski Valley



# FWSA Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Program Recognizes Volunteers!

by **Donn Bryant**  
MWOY Program Chair, FWSA

Congratulations to FWSA Councils' Man of the Year, *Dale Parshall* of Northwest Ski Club Council and *Jennifer Milstein*, Woman of the Year from Bay Area Snow Sports Council. FWSA recognizes top volunteers from each council during the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year recognition program at the FWSA Annual Convention. Our councils honor dedicated men and women who have made significant contributions to organized skiing within their council over a multi-year skiing and ski organization career. These honorees have volunteered their time to support club, council, community service, race league, and FWSA efforts to enhance the skiing experience for our members.

A big "Thank You" to Big White Ski Resort for its continuing support and sponsorship of the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year program since 2001. Our winners were awarded a five-day ski vacation for two at Big White.

Thanks to the judges for scoring the interview forms prior to the convention and spending all Saturday morning in the interview process: Karen Bonine, Michael Bouton, Helen Harris, Paula Hazzard, Woody Hogan, Jean McCasey, David Rasmussen, Judy Thurman, and Paul Vlasveld. ▲▲



*Chairman Donn Bryant (not pictured) announced the winners while Jim Lloyd, Director of Sales of Big White Ski Resort, awarded plaques and certificates to Dale Parshall (second right) and Jennifer Milstein (second left). Last year's winners, Norm Azevedo (left) and Sigrid Noack (right) congratulate Jennifer and Dale. photo by Sheri Parshall*

## Council Honorees are:

	Woman	Man
Arizona Ski Council	Wanda Himler	
Bay Area Snow Sports Council	Jennifer Milstein	Mike Dhuey
Intermountain Ski Council	Lizbeth Benson	Floyd Foresman
Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs	Sandra Blackwell	Steve Elkins
Northwest Ski Club Council	Louise Dufresne	Dale Parshall
Orange Council of Ski Clubs	Drew Young	
San Diego Council of Ski Clubs	Diane Raines	David Arnold
Sierra Council & Race League	Gayle Sherman	Peter Callison

# Silent Auction & Travel Expo - 2013 Participants

by **Mary Olhausen and Debbi Kor**

*The Far West Ski Association and Bay Area Snow Sports Council extend their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the 28th Annual Silent Auction and Travel Expo participants. The success of this event is made possible by the continued support from our industry partners. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2013-2014 and beyond.*

Afton Alps, MN  
All Seasons Resort Lodging, UT  
Alpine Meadows, CA  
Arapahoe Basin, CO  
Aspen Skiing Company, CO  
Aspen/Snowmass, CO  
Aston Lakeland Village Resort, CA  
Alyeska Resort, AK  
Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, Canada  
Banff Lodging Company, Canada  
Beaver Creek Resort, CO  
Beaver Run Resort, CO  
Betty Donellan, CA  
Big Sky Resort, MT  
Big White Ski Resort, Canada  
Bike Tours Direct, NJ  
Breckenridge Hospitality, CO  
Breckenridge Ski Resort, CO  
Brian Head Ski Resort, UT  
Brundage Mountain Resort, ID  
Caesars Entertainment, NV  
Cascade Vail Lodging, CO

Cedar Breaks Lodge, UT  
Cliff Lodge, UT  
Coast Blackcomb Suites-Whistler, Canada  
Copper Mountain Resort, CO  
Crested Butte Mountain Resort, CO  
Davis Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, UT  
Deer Valley Ski Resort, UT  
Delta Whistler Hotel, Canada  
Deschutes Brewery, OR  
Destination Hotels & Resorts, CA  
Destination Resorts Snowmass, CO  
Diamond Peak Ski Resort, NV  
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, CO  
Eldorado Resort, Mexico  
El Monte Sagrado Resort & Spa, NM  
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Canada  
Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Canada  
Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Canada  
Fernie Alpine Resort, Canada  
Forest Suites, CA

Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, NV  
Grand Targhee Resort, WY  
Granlibakken Resort, CA  
Great Basin Brewing Company, NV  
Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT  
Harrah's/Harvey's, NV  
Heavenly Mountain Ski Resort, CA  
Holidaze Ski Tours, NJ  
Homewood Mountain Resort, CA  
Huntley Lodge, MT  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY  
Jackson Hole Resort Lodging, WY  
Kandahar Lodge at Whitefish, MT  
Keystone Lodge & Spa, CO  
Keystone Ski Resort, CO  
Kicking Horse Mtn. Resort, Canada  
Kimberley Alpine Resort, Canada  
Kirkwood Ski Resort, CA  
La Quinta Inn-Layton, UT  
Lizard Creek Lodge, Canada  
Madrona Manor, CA  
Mammoth Mountain Inn, CA





*Steve Elkins, LAC's Man of the Year; not pictured in this group photo.*

*The FWSA Councils' Man and Woman of the Year is chosen from Council Men and Women of the Year. They gathered in front of the Big White booth during the Silent Auction. Big White sponsors the MWOY Program. Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, CA  
 Miracle Springs Resort, CA  
 Mountain Lodge Telluride, CO  
 Mountain Resorts Steamboat, CO  
 Mountainside Inn, CO  
 Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, OR  
 Mt. Brighton, MI  
 Mt. Rose / Ski Tahoe, NV  
 Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge, Canada  
 Nautic Adventures, CA  
 Northstar Lodging, CA  
 Northstar Ski Resort, CA  
 Ogden / Weber Convention & Visitors Bureau, UT  
 Pacific Coach, Canada  
 Panorama Mountain Village, Canada  
 Park City Mountain Resort, UT  
 Park City Peaks Hotel, UT  
 Phoenix Inn, OR  
 Powderhorn Mountain Ski Resort, CO  
 Powder Mountain Ski Resort, UT  
 Red Mountain Resort, Canada  
 Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitor's Authority, NV  
 Resort at Squaw Creek, CA

Resorts of the Canadian Rockies, Canada  
 Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID  
 Selkirk Lodge, ID  
 Shadow Ridge Condos, UT  
 Shore Lodge, ID  
 Ski Big 3, Canada  
 SKI.com, CO  
 Ski Dazzle, CA  
 Ski Group.Net, CA  
 Ski Nautic Adventures, CA  
 Ski Salt Lake, UT  
 Snakedance Condominiums, NM  
 Snow Tours, NJ  
 Snowbasin Ski Resort, UT  
 Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort, UT  
 Snowmass Ski Resort, CO  
 Snowmass Tourism, CO  
 South Lake Tahoe Lodging, CA  
 Sports America Tours, CA  
 Squaw Valley Resort, CA  
 Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., CO  
 Stonebridge Inn, CO  
 Sunriver Resort, OR  
 Sun Valley Resort, ID  
 Sunshine Mountain Lodge, Canada

Sunshine Village Resort, Canada  
 Taos Ski Valley Resort, NM  
 Teewinot Lodge, WY  
 Telluride Alpine Lodging, CO  
 Telluride Ski Resort, CO  
 The Crestwood, CO  
 The Gant Hotel, CO  
 The Grand Lodge, CO  
 The Hotel Alyeska, AK  
 The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, MT  
 The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center, OR  
 The Transportation Network, UT  
 The Vintage Hotel, CO  
 Tourism Whistler, Canada  
 Trickle Creek Lodge, Canada  
 Vail Resorts, CO  
 Val D'Isere Condos, CA  
 Village at Squaw Creek, CA  
 Wanderlust Tours, OR  
 Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada  
 Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT  
 Whitewater Ski Resort, Canada  
 Winter Park Ski Resort, CO  
 Wyndham Vacation Rentals, CO



## 2013 Convention - Award Recipients -

### Snowsports Builder Award -

Arthur Chelton "Shelly" Leonard,  
10th Mountain Division, Ski Instructor  
for University of Reno;  
Vern Sprock, Former owner  
Sierra Ski Ranch; and  
Doug Pringle, President Disabled  
Sports USA, Far West Division

### Hans Georg Award - Bill Clark, Western SkiSport Museum

### Elizabeth 'Schatzi' Wood Award -

Nancy Ellis, FWSA VP North  
American Travel Program

### J. Stanley Mullin Award - Bob Ellis, President, Far West Racing Association

### Jimmie Heuga Award - Fred Noble, Ski to Defeat ALS

### Jordan-Reily Award - Judy Dorsey, President and Principal Engineer, Brendle Group, Colorado

### Bill Mackey Award - Brandon Bang, Director of Sales & Marketing, Big Sky

### Tommi Tyndall Award - Mt. Bachelor, Oregon

### Terry Smith Award - Ken Kawahara, ULLR League Chairman

### Bill Berry Hard News Award - Sylas Wright, Sports Editor, "Sierra Sun"

### Warren Miller Modern Media Award - William A. Kerig, Movie "Ready to Fly" Whitney Childers, Movie "Ready to Fly"

### President's Award Recipients:

Ted Ligety, US Ski Team;  
Mikaela Shiffrin, US Ski Team;  
Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Trustee & FWSA  
Convention Chairperson; and  
Catherine Ohl, FWSA Webmaster &  
FWSA Awards Chair

### Man & Woman of the Year:

Jennifer Milstein, Bay Area Snow  
Sports Council; and  
Dale Parshall, Northwest  
Ski Club Council

## Program Award Recipients:

### Western Ski Heritage Award -

Ingrid Wichen, Author, "Lost Ski Areas  
of Southern California"

### Safety Person of the Year - Gordon Lusk, Northwest Ski Club Council

### Charity & Community Service

### Recognition - Club: Fresno Ski Club of Central Council of California;

Council: Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

## Snowsport Celebrities Entertain & Inform Public Affairs Panel Attendees

by Mike Sanford

Vice-President of Public Affairs, FWSA

Mike Sanford, FWSA Past President, led the morning and afternoon Public Affairs Panels at the Far West Ski Association's Annual Convention in Reno.

The topic "Snowsports Trends + Adaptive Sports" led off the morning panel. The session featured: Doug Pringle, President Disabled Sports USA Far West Division; Dave Ludwig, Founder of Hope on the Slopes and Ski and Ride for a Cure; Val Rios, President Sierra Nevada Chapter of the 10th Mountain Division Association and Past President of the 10th Mountain Division Descendants; and Bill Clark, Executive Director, Auburn Ski Club Training Center and Western SkiSport Museum. Topics included adaptive sports creation and support, how adaptive sporting events have increased and how they are managed.

The session began with an extensive brief conducted by Bill Clark on the proposed construction of a new Western SkiSport Museum at the entrance of Squaw Valley Ski Resort. This was particularly interesting to FWSA delegates because the Museum houses nearly all the historical data for FWSA, including race results and documents covering the initial stages of the founding and development of FWSA.

The session then moved to discussions on adaptive sports and event planning, along with information on how clubs and councils can participate, or even organize an event. Great information was provided by both Doug and Dave on their respective approaches to developing challenged skier events and the benefits provided, both financial and morale wise.

This session also covered how 10th Mountain Division veterans and descendants are carrying on the traditions of the 10th Mountain Veterans and how supporters can formally join local groups to help support current 10th Mountain vets and survivors.

The afternoon panelists again included Bill Clark, Val Rios, Doug Pringle and Dave Ludwig. This time they were joined by Wayne Wong, Freestyle Skier and US Ski Hall of Fame Inductee, and Billy Kidd, a friend and frequent FWSA conventioneer. Billy is America's hero from the 1964 Olympics when he and teammate Jimmie Heuga became the first American men to win Olympic medals in alpine skiing, a silver and bronze. The discussion soon moved to how Wayne became a pioneer in Freestyle and his adventures leading to his world dominance of the sport. When joined by Billy's tales of his competition experiences, including losing a race by a fraction of a second smaller than an eye blink, the room was spellbound. Delegate attendees were held captive by the stories and educational discussions of these two heroes of skiing. ▲▲



LEFT: Sylas Wright was the recipient of the Bill Berry Hard News Award. Sylas is the Sports Editor for the Sierra Sun and North Lake Tahoe Bonanza Newspapers. His coverage of junior ski racing and FWSA Athletic Scholarship recipients, was especially noted in that he brought recognition to both the sport and to deserving young athletes. RIGHT: Bill Clark, Executive Director of the Auburn Ski Club Training Center and Executive Director of the Western SkiSport Museum, was the recipient of the Hans Georg Award. Bill initiated the display of FWSA Award Recipients at the Museum. The Training Center is a major operation with 40 coaches and over 250 competitors offering coaching for every Olympic on snow discipline. Presenting the awards was Randy Lew, FWSA President.





*Convention Keynote Speaker; Candace Cable, former US Paralympian and US National Wheelchair Race Champion.*

## Candace Cable, Paralympian, was the Keynote Speaker for the FWSA Convention

We were honored and privileged to welcome our Keynote Speaker, Candace Cable, a 9-time Paralympian, to our Convention.

A spinal cord injury at the age of 21 in 1975, brought about a need for Candace to create social relationships with other wheelchair users, to feel connection and inclusion in society. She believes that “adaptive sports saved my life and defined my purpose.”

Her achievements are noteworthy and quite incredible. Candace participated in four Summer Paralympics and five Winter Paralympics from 1980 to 2006, winning 12 Paralympic Medals (8 Gold Medals). A member of the U.S. Wheelchair Sports Team (1980-1996), she was a U.S. National Track Champion 55 times. Also a member of the U.S. Disabled Ski Team (1989-2006) she was a U.S. National Cross Country Ski Champion 32 times. Candace has been the winner of 84 marathons, including six Boston Marathons.

A pioneer in the sport of wheelchair racing, she was a member of a small group that evolved equipment, rules, race director guidelines, endorsements and media presence to where it is today. She is currently a Skiing Athlete Representative to the U.S.O.C. Athlete Advisory Board, and a Presenter and Co-Creator of the Disability to Possibility Kit.

For all those who were in attendance to hear her story, and especially those who had the opportunity to personally meet and speak with this warm and generous person, you couldn't help but know that “limitation” is just a state of mind, to feel inspired and motivated to make your own contributions in life. ▲▲



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*Safety Person of the Year recipient, Gordon Lusk - second left, receives his award from program sponsor, Mary Manning (Aspen/Snowmass). Richard Lubin, FWSA Safety Chair and Mike Sanford, Vice-President of Public Affairs congratulate him.*  
*Sebastian Diaz / Sebastian Diaz Photography*

## Gordon Lusk: Safety Person of the Year

by Mike Sanford

Vice-President of Public Affairs, FWSA

The 2013 Safety Person of Year winner is Gordon Lusk of the Mountain High Ski Club of the Northwest Ski Club Council. Gordon is a long time expert skier. He is the president of the PACRAT Race League and has been involved many years with safety in racing. His efforts have been extensive with supervising course set-up, course starters, and crew. He has presented course safety information and techniques to club members and has written articles on this. Gordon has also coached high school and junior racers and promoted the FWRA Scholarship program to these kids.

The FWSA believes that safety is an important component in snowsports. We recognize that the ski resorts do an extraordinary job of minimizing hazards. Ultimately, safety is based on individual responsibility and behavior. The FWSA Safety Person of the Year Program is sponsored by Aspen Skiing Company with lodging provided by The Gant & Crestwood Resort Condominiums

Aspen/Snowmass has partnered with the FWSA for over a decade in recognizing the individual who has done the most to improve safety-consciousness. This fine award shows the Aspen/Snowmass commitment to promoting safety, and we would like to thank Mary Manning of Aspen/Snowmass for running this program for all these years.

The winner receives a six-day vacation for two from Aspen Skiing Company, including lift tickets for all four mountains (Ajax, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk and Snowmass), six days of rentals and a half-day group lesson for two, round trip air and seven nights lodging provided by The Crestwood Condominiums and The Gant. We encourage each ski club to promote this fine award by nominating individuals who have contributed to snow safety through on slope activities, presentations, articles, etc. Details may be found on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website. ▲



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 HAVING FUN  
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# Ingrid Wichen Collects 2013 FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award

by John Watson  
*History Committee Chair, FWSA*

The 14th FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award, sponsored by Steamboat Ski and Resort was presented to *Ingrid Wichen* in her California Ski Library in Norco, California on June 22. This is the third time she has received this award. The honor was given for her 2012 book *Lost Ski Areas of Southern California*, available from Amazon.

The award was scheduled to be presented by Billy Kidd at the FWSA Convention. The delay and change of venue was nevertheless a fortuitous one, with Grindelwald Ski Club members led by LA Council President Sandra Knapp, Louie Buhler and 10th Mountain Division veteran Bruce Campbell assisting John Watson with the award. The group spent the morning browsing through the amazing relics, displays, and records that Ingrid has amassed in her library. See page 73 for the photo of the presentation.

The *Lost Ski Areas* (LSA) projects started on the East Coast followed by Far West's Ethan Chickering launching the west-



*Researching ski history is an ongoing project for Ingrid Wichen. She won the 2013 FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award.* photo/John Watson  
ern version (WELSAP) in 1992. Wicken's book is the most detailed approach to LSAs and will be continued with her research underway for the LSAs of Northern California. The accounting for lost ski areas produces real historical treasures – personalities, partner-

ships, champions and championships – and shows the fabric and evolution of snowsports.

Did you know that Mt. Palomar had a ski area in 1967? Were you aware that skiing was put into operation by Tommi Tyndall near Idyllwild on Mt San Jacinto? The two areas had parts of one or two seasons of operation.

A year 'round ski area, Ski Villa in Carbon Canyon, opened in Orange County in 1966. It was a concrete bowl paved in plastic tiles and had a vertical of 280 feet.

A pine needle slope was operated by Sepp Benedikter in the summer of 1939. It was on a slope at the corner of Lankershim and Ventura Boulevards, the current location of Universal Studios. Both Ski Villa and the pine needle slope operated for day and night skiing. The pine needle slope attracted many Hollywood celebrities. But Ski Villa and the pine needle slope had only one season at best.

The winner of the Western Ski Heritage Prize receives a five-day vacation for two from Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation, including five-day lift tickets to Steamboat, five days of rentals, half-day lesson for two and five nights lodging. ▲

*Steamboat Ski & Resort is celebrating their 50th Anniversary in 2013.*

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## "SHELLY" LEONARD



*Shelley Leonard received the University of Nevada Athletic Hall of Fame recognition at halftime for skiing and coaching. Nevada Governor, Bob Miller, presented the plaque at UNR's Mackay Stadium, 1992.*

What we cite here is but a microscopic history related to fifty years of contributions to snowsports of this heroic figure from Nevada's Carson Valley, Arthur Chelton Leonard (1923-2011).

Leonard was both a ski and football athlete at Reno High School (Class of 1941) and the University of Nevada-Reno. He was headed for international ski competition when World War II changed everything. He volunteered for the U. S. Army and was ordered in 1943 to Camp Hale to train with the 10th Mountain Division, a corporal designated as a ski instructor.

At the end of the war, Leonard enrolled in the University of Oregon. Though he was proud to be called a Duck, the siren call of ski racing led him to Sun Valley, Idaho in 1947. In 1948, he was back at the University of Nevada and a member of the ski team until his graduation in 1951. The next eight years were spent as the University of Nevada Ski Coach, producing many skiers who went on to competitions and the ski industry. During this time, he organized the first sanctioned NCAA Intercollegiate Ski Championships held at Sky Tavern, originated the "All American Ski Team", was honored as Ski Coach of the Year and led Nevada to two top five finishes in the NCAA Ski Championships. In 1992, Chelton was inducted into the University of Nevada Athletic Hall of Fame for Skiing and as Coach of the Ski Team.

In 1958, Chelton took the position of Assistant Sports Technical Director for the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley. He was involved in the Competition Jury, was the Chief Gatekeeper for Alpine events and appointed

## Snowsports Builder Awards - 2013

*Pioneers drawn from the fields of ski racing, coaching, and instruction; the evolution of disabled skier programs, and ski area development.*

by John Watson

*History Committee Chair, FWSA*

Advisor to Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer for the Winter Olympics. In 1960, he was appointed Executive Director of the National Ski Association of America (now the United States Ski and Snowboard Association) and continued working with the U.S. Olympic Committee and as Chairman of the International Ski Competition Committee. Chelton returned to Reno in 1962 for two more years as Nevada's Ski Coach. He was recalled to active military service in 1967 and later retired from the Army as a Colonel.

His last role was Director of the Luggi Foegger Ski School at Diamond Peak, Incline Village, NV from 1975-1990. His love of skiing, mountains and the Army had Chelton traveling the world with the 10th Mountain Division Association and the International Federation of Mountain Soldiers. For three years from 1995 to 1998, he served as Secretary General of the "International Federation of Mountain Soldiers". He became lifelong friends with many of his former adversaries, including a German General.

"Shelly" Leonard founded the 10th Mountain Division annual biathlon race and he celebrated its 28th Anniversary April 19, 2009 at Auburn Ski Club. In 2007, he received the Wendell Robie Award from Auburn Ski Club for Lifetime Outstanding Service. Leonard's long career includes Certified Official, Chief of Race, Referee and Chief Timer for Far West Ski Association, United States Ski Association and the International Ski Federation (FIS).

Arthur Chelton Leonard served snowsports and community youth sports in many roles, especially in the Reno-Tahoe area. Snowsports owes a great debt to the late "Shelly" for his many contributions to the development of ski racing, coaching and ski instruction during skiing's growth years from the Olympics through the 1980s. Between his 10th Mountain Division duty commencing in 1943 and Diamond Peak, "Shelly" Leonard participated in every major ski activity in the Reno-Tahoe area for 50 years. There may be no trail marker, but those tracks in the snow are "Shelly" Leonard's.

## DOUG PRINGLE



*Doug Pringle, one of the Snowsport Builder Award winners, participated in the Public Affairs Panel at the 2013 FWSA's Annual Convention. He was instrumental in the development of disabled sports programs.*

Doug Pringle is a ground breaking pioneer for disabled sports and a tireless innovator and organizational developer of services to the disabled. And he is adding further to his four decades of service to the expanding disabled community.

Doug Pringle, USMA (West Point) Class of '67, arrived that same year in Vietnam. Three months later, he lost most of his right leg in combat. His long rehabilitation reinforced his determination to continue his recreational activities despite his handicap. He found that there were but three amputee ski clubs in the USA so he and 13 other amputees organized and raced at Donner Summit in 1969. They called it a National Amputee Championship. This was his initial point for what is now Disabled Sports USA. It all began on snow. And, Doug Pringle has been central in the evolution of disabled sports in the USA.

Forty years ago, many of the wounded from the Vietnam War became involved in skiing because major military hospitals were including the sport as part of rehabilitation training. Pringle got hooked on skiing through his participation in the National Handicapped Sports and Recreation Association (NHSRA).





*The Sprock family, Vern, Bobbie, Kathy and Peter, developed Sierra Ski Ranch, which was later sold to Fibreboard in 1993 to become Sierra at Tahoe.*

*photos provided by John Watson*

He became its President in 1970. He further expanded the network to 25 chapters over the next six years. As a member of the Professional Ski Instructor's Association (PSIA), he expanded Learn to Ski clinics and authored numerous manuals about disabled skiing. In 1988, PSIA voted to recognize NHSRA's Adaptive Ski Instructor Certification program. In 1994, NHSRA was renamed Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA), now with nationwide reach. Doug Pringle was the President of the founding chapter and is the current President of DSUSA Far West, the founding chapter.

Today, DSUSA serves over 60,000 youth, wounded warriors and adults annually in over 30 different sports, through a nationwide network of over 100 community-based chapters in 37 states. Disabilities include those with visual impairments, amputations, spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, head injury, cerebral palsy, other neuromuscular/orthopedic conditions, dwarfism, autism and related intellectual disabilities. DSUSA offers over 40 different sports including alpine and Nordic skiing, snowboarding, biathlon, kayaking, water skiing, sailing, scuba, surfing, rafting, outrigger canoeing, fishing, hiking, golf, athletics, archery, cycling, running/wheeling, rock climbing, equestrian and others. These sports opportunities transform participants, highlighting the potential in each, embodied in the DSUSA motto *"If I can do this, I can do anything!"*

DSUSA is recognized for its pioneering role in developing physical fitness programs for people with disabilities, advocacy for and provision of adaptive programs, development of specialized equipment and its advocacy for people with disabilities in sports and recreation. It all began on snow with 13 amputee skiers who refused to be discouraged. Doug Pringle was there at the beginning.

Vern Sprock, a dedicated outdoorsman, bought Sierra Ski Ranch with its two rope tows in 1953. Vern Sprock was one of the last of the area resort founders who did it on his own - in his own way. In the 40 years of the Sierra Ski Ranch, it was noted for its offerings of affordable family and weekend packages and a number of imaginative innovations, as well.

The tradition begun by Sprock was to provide a great value on legendary terrain. Sierra Ski Ranch was a family affair with Vern, his wife Bobbie and children Kathy and Peter. Vern had the dreams and the vision. He and Bobbie worked side by side to make them a reality. Kathy and Peter started at a young age with their assigned jobs. Vern and his late wife Bobbie and their children, Kathy and Peter, made an indelible imprint on snowsports.

Starting with the tows, he proceeded to expand the lift capability at the Ranch to three rope tows and two Poma lifts. The venture had trying days ahead. Caltrans required that the entire area move in 1968 due to a planned Highway 50 relocation. Successful in relocating further east on the highway, Sierra Ski Ranch reopened on Christmas Day and was immediately slammed by a record snowfall. That year was a challenge, but the area reopened in three weeks and struggled through the remainder of the season - at a loss. In 1977, the Ranch was hosting more than 300,000 snowriders annually. In the 1982-1983 season Echo Summit received 747 inches of snow, the largest recorded snowfall ever in California. This time, Sierra Ski Ranch was prepared.

The family operated Sierra Ski Ranch in

two locations and made many improvements over their 40 years of operations. Among her duties, Bobbie did a snow report each morning, one of the first areas to offer this service; she also served as an official weather observation station for the National Weather Service. She was honored by the Tahoe Heritage Foundation in 2005 for her service.

Vern Sprock's last big challenge was his 1988 proposal to the USFS for a 3-phase, 10-year plan for the Sierra Ski Ranch. The proposed 1988 Huckleberry Base Area would include 11 ski lifts, 1 tram, 1 day lodge, 2 hotels, 200 condominiums, 2 service stations and other infrastructure. This project was scouted out by Vern, the USFS District Rangers and others. In the hearings and media leading up to the ultimate rescission by the USFS, local groups such as "Friends of the Echo Summit" brought the spotted owl into the discussions. There was no known outcome to a study of the owl's habitat nor a timeline for its completion. This situation, while not fatal for the ranch, made its future course indefinite. When Sprock sold to Fibreboard in 1993, the Ranch had nine chairlifts. The backcountry gates to the Huckleberry area were opened in 2001.

The Sprock family has moved on. But their four decade heart and soul investment is a testament to perseverance and a family approach to area services. Snowsports is indebted to Vern Sprock for his operation of Sierra Ski Ranch from humble beginnings in 1953, through trying times and circumstances, to 1993 when it was sold to become what we now know as Sierra at Tahoe. The family was there at the sale. ▲▲

## VERN SPROCK



# FWSA Ski Clubs & Councils Continue Generous Charity Support

by Sigrid Noack

*Charities and Our Community Chair, FWSA*

FWSA is very proud to have so many clubs and councils actively supporting a huge variety of charities. To recognize our ski clubs and ski councils' efforts, the Far West Ski Association established the "Charity and Community Service Recognition" program seven years ago. By openly recognizing so many groups of our FWSA family annually at the FWSA Convention, we also hope to encourage others to become more involved with charity activities and donations.

FWSA and its 11 participating ski councils have always been committed to supporting charitable giving and volunteerism. Through these generous donations and volunteer services of our individual members in clubs and councils, we hope to enhance the quality of life within our communities.

This year, for the first time, we have two separate categories of recognition: Our most outstanding ski clubs and our most outstanding ski councils. Four ski clubs and three councils took the time to apply for this wonderful "Charity and Community Service Recognition". Congratulations to the members of these clubs and councils, their presidents, and their charity program organizers. These are wonderful groups selflessly supporting many charity activities. The decision to pick the best of the best is always a challenge for our judges.

Congratulations to Fresno Ski Club of Central Council of California for winning the 7th annual FWSA "Charity and Community Service Recognition". The winning club received a \$300 FWSA check, which Fresno Ski Club donated to one of their favorite charities, Special Olympics of Northern California. This past year, Fresno Ski Club members were involved with many wonderful community programs. As described by president Scott Knutson: "Members volunteered as coaches during the Special Olympics Winter Games at our local ski resort, China Peak. Coaches were responsible for their athletes from the time they arrived at the resort, during warm-up runs, on-mountain lunch, during races, and assisting back to the bus with all their equipment, hopefully! Our volunteers enjoyed the honor of medaling the winners at their awards dinner. All those who participated agreed the experience was priceless! We definitely have established a lasting relationship with Special Olympics beyond the event. All volunteer members have expressed interest in continuing working with the athletes during the summer, as they pursue 'break the barriers', swimming, bowling, etc."

Another charitable event for Fresno Ski Club is the annual Live & Silent Auction held at the Shriners Hall to provide funds to trans-



***The Unrecables are the Los Angeles chapter of Disabled Sports USA. The club schedules a trip to Mammoth Mountain one weekend a month during ski season. The Wooley Mammoth joined a blind skier and guides on the slopes.*** photo provided by Sigrid Noack

port children to the hospital for treatment. "Help a Hero" is another charity, which Fresno Ski Club members enjoy supporting by sending care packages to our troops in Afghanistan, through the Palmisano Care Package Project. They sent hand warmers, foot warmers, body warmers, knit hats, and playing cards, as a moral boost and to keep our troops warm! Yet another major charity event for this ski club was the annual Ski Swap & Sale, now in its 40th year! Funds raised were donated to Special Olympics. This year, the event exploded into a Community Ski Fair, with booths set up by many other groups: China Peak, Badger Pass, REL, Sunglass Hut, Scottish Rite, Pet Rescue, and a mini theatre showing ski movies and club activities!

Members also designed special clocks to donate to China Peak Ski Resort. The clocks had three logos: US Forest Service, China Peak Resort, and Fresno Ski Club. What a great way to continue good will between their ski club, the local resort and the Forest Service. The Fresno Ski Club has only 139 members! What an amazing group of people. Thank you and congratulations to Fresno Ski Club members for doing such phenomenal charity work.

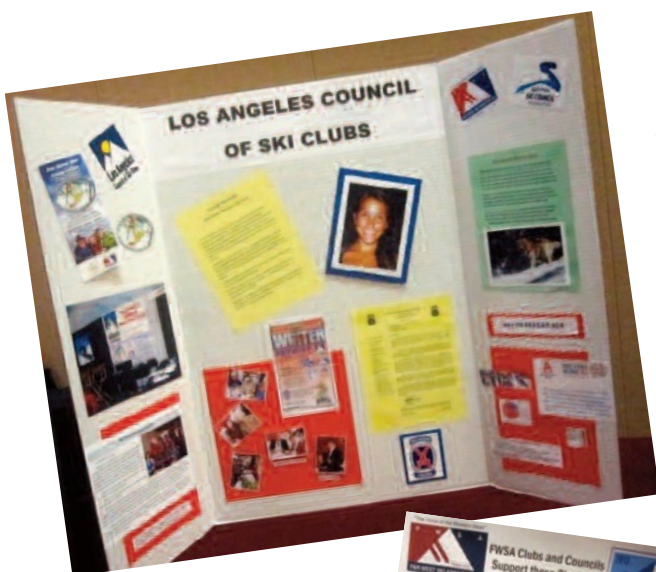
The winner of our new FWSA Ski Coun-

cil Recognition is Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs. Thank you for supporting so many charities. A very special thank you to LAC for donating their \$100 FWSA check to their favorite charity "The Unrecables, Los Angeles Chapter of Disabled Sports USA".

At the annual FWSA Convention, the top three clubs and the top council winners are asked to prepare a photo display board to show our delegates and industry friends just how much FWSA members care, and how much we do for others! The charity display boards were very impressive. A big thank you to our club finalists for all their involvement with charitable organizations. Modesto Ski Club of Bay Area Snow Sports Council donated their \$100 check to the American Heart Association, and Single Ski Club of Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs donated their \$100 award to the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation. Congratulations and a great big THANK YOU to all the applicants and to the club members who work so hard to support their favorite charities.

Thank you also to the other club and councils, who are very much involved with community service activities and took the time to apply for this special FWSA recognition: Torrey Pines Ski Club of San Diego Council of





**ABOVE:** Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs won the inaugural FWSA Ski Council Recognition for their extensive support of local, state and national charities. The presentation board above shows some of their many accomplishments. **RIGHT:** The list of charities that FWSA clubs and councils support is extensive and fluid. New charities are added every year. And, there are several favorites that get annual support like those listed to the right.

photos provided by Sigrid Noach



## Several Sports Related Charities are Favorite FWSA Beneficiaries

■ Many FWSA ski clubs enjoy being involved with *Special Olympics*, whose mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

<http://specialolympics.org>.

Another FWSA favorite organization is *Disabled Sports USA*, whose mission is to provide national leadership and opportunities for individuals with disabilities to develop independence, confidence, and fitness through participation in community sports, recreation and educational programs. One of the great programs of DSUSA is

*Warfighter Sports* which offers sports rehabilitation programs in military hospitals and communities across the U.S. through a nationwide network of over 100 community-based chapters. The program offers more than 30 winter and summer adaptive sports including skiing, snowboarding, cycling, wheelchair basketball, watersports and more. <http://dsusa.org> or <http://www.warfightersports.org>.

*Can Do MS* is another wonderful charity and close to FWSA's heart. One of FWSA's major awards is named after its founder, Jimmie Heuga. Can Do MS leads the way with empowering people and families living with MS to transform and improve their quality of life. Heuga's vision was that everyone living with MS has the power to live full lives. <http://www.mscando.org>.

The *United States Adaptive Recreation Center*, was founded to ensure that access to skiing is available to people with all types of disabilities. The USARC believes people are empowered when they undertake and succeed at challenging outdoor recreation. The organization established the first full-time on-site adaptive ski school in Southern California at Bear Mountain Resort. Adaptive watersports and summer camping programs were added and continue to evolve. [www.usarc.org](http://www.usarc.org) ▲

Ski clubs, Intermountain Ski Council, and Bay Area Snow Sports Council. Congratulations and thank you for all the great charity work you do!

FWSA has another opportunity for recognition for our ski councils, the "**Community Service Awareness Program**". Our 11 council presidents are encouraging all their clubs to get involved with charitable activities. At the FWSA Convention, we announced the "Honor Roll of Councils", recognizing all councils that have clubs involved with charities. Congratulations to all the councils and clubs for putting forth this great effort in supporting community organizations: Arizona Ski Council, Bay Area Snow Sports Council, Central Council of California, Intermountain Ski Council, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, Northwest Ski Club Council, Orange Council of Ski Clubs, San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, and Sierra Council & Race League.

Please refer to the FWSA Community Service site for updated information at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). ▲

*We hope to encourage others to become more involved with charity activities and donations.*

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**PARTICIPATE** in the Annual **Ski-A-Thon**, a day-long event of fun, frivolity, food, festivity and "feel-good" as you help raise important funding for the USARC's life changing programs. Please bring your friends to join us on Saturday, March 8, 2014.

**DONATE** individually here or through your Ski Club's charitable giving program. The USARC is happy to give a presentation to your fellow club members or discuss with you how your generosity positively impacts the lives of others.



**United States Adaptive Recreation Center**

PO Box 2897  
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909.584.0269  
[mail@usarc.org](mailto:mail@usarc.org)  
[www.usarc.org](http://www.usarc.org)





Northwest Ski Club Council invites you to experience the *Volcanic Paradise* at the 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention June 12-15, 2014, in Bend, Oregon. Come to Bend and see for yourself the stunning landscape of a 10,000 foot volcano's skyline, lumpy lava flows and crystalline lakes. This high desert wonderland awaits you!

The Convention is being held at the spectacular Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center. The Riverhouse is centrally located just minutes from downtown Bend, nestled along the banks of the beautiful Deschutes River, and offers some of the finest lodging amenities in Central Oregon. Enjoy spacious rooms, indoor and outdoor heated pools, spas, saunas and an exercise room. The Crossings Restaurant offers award winning cuisine. Amenities include complimentary parking, no resort fees, and free in-room Wi-Fi. Nearby is Bend River Promenade Shopping Mall, Family Fun Center and numerous restaurants. To make your reservations call **800-547-3928** or **541-389-3111**. Be sure to mention our Group Name for our special rate: **Far West Ski Association 2014**. The website address for The Riverhouse is [www.riverhouse.com](http://www.riverhouse.com). Our FWSA room block includes both river views and non-river views.



*The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center will be the site of the 2014 FWSA Convention in Bend, Oregon. Courtesy of Central Oregon Visitors Association*

## The 82nd FWSA Convention: **VOLCANIC PARADISE** June 12-15, 2014

by **Mary Olhausen**  
*President, Northwest Ski Club Council, FWSA*

Getting to Bend is easy as you can fly, take the train or drive! Air transportation is via *Redmond Municipal Airport* (RDM). Four airlines fly into Redmond: Alaska, American, Delta, and United. The airport is located just 15 minutes from The Riverhouse. Rental cars and shuttle service are available at the airport. Amtrak offers the Coast Starlight rail service from many major cities, dropping you in Chemult, Oregon, 65 miles south of Bend, and busing you to the front door of The Riverhouse. Driving from any routes into Central Oregon offers great views and traveling at your leisure. Located in central Oregon, Bend is three hours from Portland, Oregon.

Make plans to arrive early and stay late! Hotel rates are honored three days pre and post Convention. Take advantage of all that Central Oregon has to offer. This outdoor mecca is endless with activities: fishing, river rafting, hiking, biking, stand up paddle boarding, golfing, rock climbing, desert cave tours, canoeing, kayaking, volcano tours, shopping, photography tours, and the infamous Bend Ale Trail to sample what is fondly known as the city of "Beervana". Bend offers up 300 days of sunshine per year, so come on over to the high desert for your fill of activities, great northwest foods and chilling out! For further information on Bend and surrounding areas see Visit Bend at [www.visitbend.com](http://www.visitbend.com). Here you can plan all your pre and post convention activities.

The Far West Convention kicks off on

Thursday with a Ski Day on Mt. Bachelor and a Tailgater Party. Join us on this volcano for some morning skiing with friends and a great lunch. Mt. Bachelor will treat us to what spring skiing is really all about.

Thursday evening we gather for the annual Pub Crawl – Bend style! Sign up early because this is always a popular event. This year, we visit the Deschutes Brewery (*pictured on the next page*) for our first stop for brewery tours and light dinner. Then, we will continue our way to downtown Bend where you have to opportunity to visit numerous brewpubs, galleries, and boutique/funky retail shops at your leisure. Gather at the end of the evening at McMenamin's Old St. Francis, and return to the host hotel. The Bend Downtown Association will roll out the red carpet for FWSA with their Flash Your Card Program.

The 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Friday at the River's Edge Golf Course. Rated by *Golf Digest* as "Best Places To Play", this par-72 course was designed by golf architect Robert Muir Graves, with breathtaking scenery throughout, including majestic Deschutes River, a waterfall, and spectacular views of Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Hood, and Smith Rock. This is a course for golfers of all skill levels - even if you've never golfed before!

The Smith Rock State Park Adventure Day will be an outing to see some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, with deep river canyons. This event will offer something

**January  
is  
Learn to  
Ski &  
Snowboard  
Month**

T

he program

introduces snowsports to future generations. In January of 2013, more than 153,000 children and adults took lessons from professional instructors during *Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month*. A total of 34 states took part in the initiatives. Most offered discounted lessons, lift tickets and rental equipment.

Are you already a skier or snowboarder? Then, take the **Bring a Friend Challenge** ([bringafriend.org](http://bringafriend.org)). You can win grand prize trips and snowsports products. For more information, go to: [www.skiandsnowboardmonth.org](http://www.skiandsnowboardmonth.org)



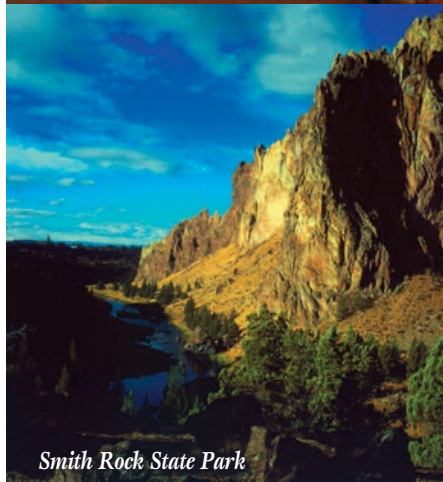


Deschutes Brewery



River's Edge Golf Course / Hole #15

Numerous activities are planned: Thursday's skiing on Mt. Bachelor and Pub Crawl, and on Friday, the 8th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament, and nature hike, & more!  
Courtesy Central Oregon Visitors Association



Smith Rock State Park

for everyone – from the easy walker to advanced hikers. A short bus ride takes you to breathtaking views from the force of volcanism. See wildlife, explore different trail levels, spot high tech climbers on Monkey Face, and enjoy a picnic lunch.

*Biking Around Bend* will be a great event on Friday. Join us for the first annual community service optional event where we partner up with Oregon Adaptive Sports, a Chapter of DSUSA, where you get to bike around Bend with those with physical and cognitive disabilities. Your participation can be as minimal as moral support or assisting with the adaptive cycles. A portion of the ac-

tivity fee will assist with contributing to the OAS wish list of much needed equipment.

Need some sun and socializing in the afternoon? Just head to the annual Friday Afternoon Pool Party hosted by Central Council. Cool off in the pool and enjoy beverages and light appetizers while mingling with delegates and industry partners.

On Friday evening, the Riverhouse Convention Center will be the location for the very popular FWSA Silent Auction. This event is open to all FWSA delegates and guests. North American and international ski industry and resort representatives will be present to answer questions and share infor-

# THANKS FWSA!

MT. BACHELOR & THE RIVERHOUSE

WELCOME FWSA CONVENTION 2014!

June 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 2014 Bend, Oregon

## Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center

Dubbed the "outdoor playground of the West" for a thousand good reasons, Bend is world famous for both its outdoor pursuits and pristine beauty. The historic downtown mixes cosmo with homegrown friendliness. Now, it's your turn to experience Mt. Bachelor and Bend Oregon!

Mt. Bachelor

The Riverhouse  
HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER





*The Crossings Restaurant and Deck overlooks the beautiful Deschutes River at The Riverhouse Hotel & Conference Center; location for the Annual FWSA Convention in 2014. The Crossings offers an exceptional dining experience specializing in Northwest favorites.*

*Courtesy Central Oregon Visitors Association*

mation about their resorts and products. The Silent Auction features an opportunity to bid on more than \$100,000 worth of great deals on ski, sport and adventure packages, plus sports equipment! There is no admission charge for the FWSA Silent Auction and it includes a complimentary drink. The Silent Auction is open to the general public, and we encourage the Bend and Redmond communities to take part in this event!

On Saturday Morning there is a Travel Expo where approximately 100 resort representatives and tour operators will be available for one-on-one meetings to discuss planning your group's next ski or adventure trip. Snowsport celebrities will be featured at the afternoon Multi-Media Presentation. Public Affairs and other FWSA programs will have informational panels both in the morning and afternoon.

Convention means delegates come to learn about skiing! You can do just this by partaking in the Snowsports Leadership Academy. These sessions take place on Saturday and this year we'll be focusing on ski equipment tuning and safety. Admission to the FWSA Leadership Academy sessions are included as part of the package for all Full Package Delegates, and is available in a Saturday Only Package to the general public.

Saturday night is black tie / shorts to celebrate the *Volcanic Paradise*. This will include the FWSA Awards Banquet and Dance. Serv-

ice awards and recognitions will be given to many of our most honored volunteers and industry partners. After the dinner and our short presentation of awards get ready for some serious dancing!

All this fun and activity will be followed on Sunday morning with the business meeting of FWSA. Delegates participate in election of officers, by-laws and resolutions are voted on, and all other FWSA business is addressed. The morning's General Session is all planned around a Sunday Brunch.

If you'd like to assist the Northwest Ski Club Council as a volunteer for the 2014 FWSA Convention, please contact Host Council Convention Coordinator, *Mary Olhausen* at [omary52@comcast.net](mailto:omary52@comcast.net). For additional information regarding registration or convention activities contact *Jane Wyckoff*, FWSA Convention Chair at [janewyckoff1@cox.net](mailto:janewyckoff1@cox.net). Our FWSA Industry Partners can contact *Debbi Kor*, FWSA VP of Marketing and Sponsorships at [fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net).

Detailed information and registration materials will be posted on the FWSA website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) in early 2014. Registration materials will be distributed to clubs and councils at that same time. We invite you to join us for this 82nd Annual FWSA Convention in Bend, Oregon – we look forward to seeing you at The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center, where you will experience the *Volcanic Paradise*!

## FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

# Salute to San Diego - 2015

by Jane Wyckoff

*Annual Convention Chair, FWSA*



*The lush landscaping of the 32 acre Town and Country Resort & Convention Center provides a beautiful, tropical and tranquil setting for the 2015 FWSA Convention.*

*Town and Country Resort & Convention Center*

The Far West Ski Association will have a *Salute to San Diego* at the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, site for the 83rd Annual FWSA Convention, June 4-7, 2015, hosted by the San Diego Ski Club Council. Our last two Conventions hosted by San Diego Council were in Palm Springs. Members are thrilled to have the Convention at home.

The Town and Country Resort has been family-owned and operated since 1953. The hotel is rich in history, charm and character, with a tradition of hospitality and service. It is the essence of a San Diego resort style experience of gardens with over 3,000 blooming rose bushes, more than 2,500 arching palm trees and walkways located on 32 lushly-landscaped acres in the heart of San Diego's Mission Valley. Offering 1,000 spacious guest rooms and suites, the Town and Country provides a selection of accommodations in one of the high-rise towers, or a charming two story garden bungalow. It features four restaurants from casual to fine dining, lounges, three swimming pools and over-sized whirlpool. Indulge yourself at the The Bella Tosca European Day Spa, Salon and Fitness Center. Bella Tosca is a luxurious 14,000 square foot Mediterranean-style spa, complete with a yoga room, meditation room and state of the art fitness equipment.

For those that like to visit the local attractions, the San Diego light-rail trolley system stops on the property for easy travel to many popular San Diego sites. San Diego attractions





Downtown View from Point Loma -  
Courtesy/Joanne DiBona, SanDiego.org

include SeaWorld, San Diego Zoo and Seaport Village. For the shoppers, the Town and Country Resort is adjacent to San Diego's largest shopping plaza.

San Diego Council President and Host Council Convention Coordinator, Eileen Sanford, has already been meeting with her highly-talented Convention Committee, all with previous FWSA Convention host experience. Exciting optional events are being planned, including a trip to the USS Midway Museum for an unforgettable experience aboard one of America's longest-serving aircraft carriers. The 9th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the 27-hole championship Riverwalk Golf Club located adjacent to the resort. The course was designed by the iconic golf course architectural team of Ted Robinson, Sr. and Jr, to blend in seamlessly with the pristine natural surroundings.

Air transportation is via San Diego International Airport (SAN), located about 20



Arizona is known for its golf courses and beautiful sunsets. photo/Leigh Gieringer

miles from the Town and Country Resort. Rental cars are available at the airport and shuttle service is also offered. The Town and Country website is located at [www.townandcountry.com](http://www.townandcountry.com). For additional information, contact Eileen Sanford at [esanford1@san.rr.com](mailto:esanford1@san.rr.com).

Future planning enables the Association to conduct Conventions at the best possible pricing. For those that like to calendar even further ahead, the proposed sites and dates are: 84th Annual FWSA Convention - Arizona, June 9-12, 2016; and the 85th Annual FWSA Convention - Boise Idaho, June 8-11, 2017. The FWSA Convention Site Selection Committee is currently conducting site visits and it is anticipated that contracts will be executed for both these conventions by year-end.

For information regarding the FWSA Annual Conventions, contact Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Annual Convention Chair at [janewyckoff1@cox.net](mailto:janewyckoff1@cox.net). ▲▲



Boise Skyline /  
Boise Convention and Visitor's Bureau

## Twelve Resorts / One Pass

Powder explorers unite! Twelve of the greatest powder stashes in the country have joined forces to create the **Powder Alliance**. They are: Stevens Pass, WA; Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID; Timberline and Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, OR; Mountain High, Sierra-at-Tahoe and China Peak, CA; Snowbasin, UT; Arizona Snowball, AZ; Angel Fire, NM; Crested Butte, CO and Bridger Bowl, MT. Buy an anytime season pass to any one of their exciting areas and receive three FREE days at all the rest. That's 33 FREE tickets!

### Powder Alliance Benefits:

12 Resorts / 123 Lifts / 806 Trails  
26,782 Vertical Feet / 17,804 Skiable Acres / 3,919' Cumulative Annual Snowfall

Check their website for more information. [www.powderalliance.com/](http://www.powderalliance.com/). ▲▲



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With over 2,600 acres of alpine and nordic skiing, snowboarding... even tubing just 16 miles from downtown, Boise makes the perfect affordable getaway. When you're done on the slopes, enjoy Boise's vibrant nightlife.

**It's all here. Why aren't you?**



CONVENTION &  
VISITORS BUREAU

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The Public Affairs portfolio of programs is designed to present the positions of the FWSA to the outside world. As *"The Voice of the Western Skier"*, FWSA has been very active in a whole host of areas that affect ski area development, safety, volunteer liability, transportation, taxation, ski history and consumer advocacy. Topics such as airline baggage rules, discounts for season passes, news about ski country direct airline routes and tendencies of areas to develop along the lines of the European ski village environment are of interest to our membership and to *Far West Skier's Guide* readership. We also work to better educate our members in areas such as the impact of changing demographics and the need for increased diversity, snowsports industry efforts like ski area growth, regulatory efforts to modernize state ski laws, expanding snowmaking capabilities, development of e-commerce in the industry, resort developments, consumer tendencies, the Forest Service's involvement in area development and the need to meet visitor's various needs based on demographics such as age, capabilities, interests and other needs.

The width and breath of the FWSA's Public Affairs Program is significant and FWSA is committed to doing all we can in communicating issues, educating our membership and reaching out to the general public on a huge range of issues and interests that might be included under the large umbrella of topics that could be considered "public affairs". Some of the issues we focus on are area development, consumer advocacy, safety, transportation, history and equipment and clothing manufacturing.

In summary, the width and breath of the FWSA Public Affairs program is significant and the FWSA is committed to do its part in communicating with membership and partners and educating membership on the wide and interesting variety of Public Affairs topics.

We strongly encourage all skiers and boarders to get involved in issues that might affect them either directly or even indirectly by keeping abreast of industry news, government activities, area developments, legislation, public meetings, consumer advocacy and trends, safety issues and product developments and introductions. To keep abreast of issues and stay informed about relevant news visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and subscribe to the *Far West News Flash* (no-cost monthly electronic newsletter).

Of course, probably the most prominent and written about topic in Public Affairs is ski area development. This would include ski



*June Mountain is scheduled to reopen in December, 2013 after a year's hiatus. Plans are to make a major investment into improving the resort.*

*MonoCounty.org*

## Public Affairs: 2013

by Mike Sanford

Vice-President of Public Affairs, FWSA

area development, expansion or enhancement, proposed new ski areas and the preservation of potential new areas for future development or recreational use. Actions in these areas affect all snowsports enthusiasts. Some have long term implications and can require regional activity. Still others can involve multiple partners, can take a long time to be brought to fruition and can be tedious, requiring long term activities, devotion and patience. This process can also be very costly. Generally the process involves county, city and even state governments, the US Forest service, community organizations, area operators or permittees and an ever-changing spectrum of organizations interested in protection of the environment. Visiting the Council on Environmental Quality web page at <http://ceq.hss.doe.gov/> can lead you to further information on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

### ▲ Area Development

Generally, FWSA maintains an active network of "issue watchers" in strategic areas of the western states. We watch closely the expansion issues and efforts that affect the areas we cover with our clubs and councils. But that doesn't mean we don't watch developments in all the US areas, and we also keep a close eye on ski areas throughout the world. Our club members are well informed on developments no matter where they are occurring.

**Loveland Master Plan Accepted** - The U.S. Forest Service has accepted the master development plan for **Loveland Ski Area**, setting the outline for expansion and improvement plans for the next decade or more. Specific projects included in the plan will still be required to undergo the usual environmental approval process, but the decision indicates that the proposed developments are aligned with the Forest Service's resource manage-

ment plan. Among the elements of the plan are improvements to the beginner experience, upgrades to improve circulation between the two sections of the resort, which is bisected by U.S. 6, and the potential for initiating back-country guide services and facilities.

**Mammoth Plots New Future for June - June Mountain** is set to reopen next December after a year in mothballs. The resort will continue to target families and entry-level skiers and snowboarders, with tentative plans for lift and snowmaking upgrades down the road. "Next winter, we look forward to bringing skiers and snowboarders a great on-mountain experience while also planning for June's future, including the possibility of a new lift and enhanced snowmaking," June Mountain general manager Carl Williams said in a release. CEO Rusty Gregory of Mammoth Mountain, which owns June, told attendees at the national meeting of the North American Snowsports Journalists' Association (NASJA) that the company will invest \$6 million in a new chairlift for June once the necessary permits are acquired.

**Historic Timberline Lodge Enters Pantheon Of Historic Hotels** - The National Trust for Historic Preservation has announced that the famed ski lodge on the shoulder of Mt. Hood had been accepted onto its list of Historic Hotels of America.

**Mt. Bachelor Gets OK for Expansion** - Mt. Bachelor has received the go-ahead from the Forest Service for an improvement project that will take place over the next 10 years. Included in the plan are expansions to terrain, three new lifts, a lodge expansion, new hiking trails, a lift-served downhill bike park, a zipline course and rock climbing structure. Also on the drawing board is the construction of a bio-mass co-generation facility that will provide electrical power and steam heat.



**Whistler Blackcomb** Plans \$18 Million Lift Upgrade - Whistler Blackcomb has unveiled capital plans for an \$18 million lift expansion. Whistler Mountain's Harmony detachable quad chairlift will be replaced with a new Doppelmayr detachable six-pack. Blackcomb will replace a fixed-grip triple in the Crystal Zone with a high-speed quad.

Homewood Expansion Plan to get Further Review - **Homewood Mountain Resort's** expansion plan has been put on hold temporarily. U.S. District Judge William B. Shubb ruled that Placer County and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency approved the Homewood plan without considering whether a smaller (and less environmentally impactful) project would suffice, as required by law.

Crested Butte Produces New Master Plan - **Crested Butte Mountain Resort** has submitted a new Master Development Plan to the U.S. Forest Service. The plan incorporates previous approvals at the main mountain, along with adjacent private land development projects, new proposals for terrain outside the resort's existing permit area on Crested Butte, and a much-reduced proposal for Snodgrass Mountain, which has been the source of controversy (and rejected proposals) in the past.

Northstar Submits Master Plan for Environmental Review - **Northstar**, California, has released its Mountain Master Plan (NMMP), outlining what the future holds with regard to on-mountain improvements and additional recreational opportunities at the resort. The plan, submitted to Placer County for environmental review, outlines mountain improvements proposed at Northstar over the next 10 to 15 years. The Northstar Mountain Master Plan proposes new ski terrain, lifts, skier facilities and additional recreational opportunities, as well as upgrades to existing ski terrain and facilities.

End to Arizona Snowbowl's Legal Battles - After years of court battles, the **Arizona Snowbowl's** legal battles came to an end last fall and the resort was able to launch snow-making for the 2012-2013 ski season.

Sources for the information contained in this report: *Mountain Travel Research Program* (MTRiP), *National Ski Areas Association* (NSAA), *Ski Area Management* (SAM), *Snow-Sports Industries Association* (SIA), and *Sno-Country*.

## ▲▲ *Environment/Consumer Advocacy*

The National Ski Areas Association serves as an important voice in all areas of snowsports. The NSAA is the trade association for ski area owners and operators. It represents 325 alpine resorts that account for more than 90 percent of the skier/snowboarder visits nationwide. Additionally, it has over 450 supplier members who provide equipment, goods and services to the mountain resort industry. NSAA analyzes and distributes ski industry statistics; produces annual conferences and tradeshow; produces a bimonthly industry publication and is active in state and federal government affairs. The Association also provides educational programs and employee training materials on industry issues including OSHA, ADA and NEPA regulations and compliance; environmental laws and regulations; state regulatory requirements; aerial tramway safety; and resort operations and guest service.

One of NSAA's most notable initiatives is its **Sustainable Slopes Program**. In its 12th year, this program continues to improve and evolve and incorporate new initiatives that reflect emerging trends. Some 190 resorts endorse the Environmental Charter representing over 75 percent of the ski resorts nationally. These resorts have assessed their policies and operations using the principles contained in the Charter. Participating resorts are making significant improvements in their respective programs even considering variances in size, expertise, location and finances.

The **Climate Challenge** is designed to give technical support and recognition to ski areas that are developing carbon inventories, setting goals for carbon reduction, and measuring success in reducing their overall carbon footprint. The eight founding resorts of the Climate Challenge are Alta Ski Area, Arapahoe Basin, Canyons Resort, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Jiminy Peak, Mount Hood Meadows, Park City Mountain Resort and Telluride Ski & Golf Resort. They have inspired all ski areas with their efforts to reduce their carbon footprints. NSAA also conducts a *Sustainable Slopes Grant Program* utilizing donations from Leitwind and NSAA supplier members HKD Turbo and Brendle Group.

Ski areas across the country adopted an Environmental Charter in 2000 to address the environmental concerns of our industry. The Charter, commonly referred to as "Sustainable Slopes," identifies climate change as a poten-

tial threat to the environment and our business. Although not a major source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, many resorts across the country already are taking steps to reduce their own limited GHG emissions. The policy aims to raise awareness of the potential impacts of climate change on weather-dependent businesses and the winter recreation experience, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and work toward solutions that will keep both the environment and economy healthy.  
2012-2013 Climate Changers:

Alta Ski Area (UT)  
Arapahoe Basin (CO)  
Beaver Valley Ski Club (Canada)  
Boreal Mountain Resort (CA)  
Canyons (UT)  
Copper (CO)  
Gorgoza Park (UT)  
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort (WY)  
Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort (MA)  
Killington Resort (VT)  
Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard (NV)  
Mt. Bachelor (OR)  
Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort (OR)  
Park City Mountain Resort (UT)  
Pico Mountain (VT)  
Soda Springs (CA)  
Sugarbush Resort (VT)  
Telluride Ski & Golf (CO)

The 2014 Winter Olympics, officially the **XXII Olympic Winter Games**, will be held in Sochi, Russia. The Sochi Olympics are the first Winter Olympics (and first Olympics altogether) for the Russian Federation, as the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow were in the Soviet Union. Construction in preparation for the Games has involved the building of new venues and modernizing the telecommunications, power, and transport infrastructure of the area. This will include the construction of a new Olympic Park by the Black Sea coast in the Imeretin Valley, with venues clustered around a central area.

**The 10th Mountain Division** (Light Infantry) is a light infantry division in the United States Army based at Fort Drum, New York. The division is a subordinate unit of the XVIII Airborne Corps. *Why is 10th Mountain important to skiers you ask?* Originally constituted as a unique mountain warfare unit activated as the 10th Light Division (Alpine) in 1943, the division was the only unit of its size in the U.S. Army to specialize in fighting in mountainous and arctic conditions, thus earning the division the "MOUNTAIN" tab. Today,



► the division retains its “mountain” designation for historical purposes and is organized as a light infantry division. Reactivated in 1985, it was designated the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry). Since its reactivation, the division has deployed numerous times to both Iraq and Afghanistan in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, respectively. Why is that important to skiers? Members of the division returning from World War II started and built nearly every major and many of the smaller ski areas in the US during the 50’s, 60’s and 70’s. As skiers, we owe the 10th Mountain Division a huge debt of gratitude.

In addition to the myriad of expansion issues, we are strong supporters of responsible resort management and endorse the NSAA “Environmental Charter” and the “Sustainable Slopes” initiatives “Keep Winter Cool” and the “Environmental Charter”.

**Ski Areas Prevail in Water Rights Litigation with Forest Service** - The federal district court in Colorado recently struck down a controversial U.S. Forest Service water policy that would have required resorts to transfer ownership of valuable water rights to the U.S. government without compensation. The court's decision affects 121 ski areas operating on National Forest System lands in 13 states, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wyoming. The ruling will remove the controversial water requirement from ski area permits that were renewed in 2011 and 2012, and preclude the Forest Service from including the requirement in future ski area permits. The decision allows ski areas to continue to own and control their water for crucial ski area operations and guest services such as snowmaking, restaurants, lodging, and restrooms.

**Ski Areas Face \$1 Billion Risk from Warming Climate, Groups Say** - Declines in snowfall because of global warming are shortening the winter ski season in the U.S. and harming the economy, according to a report from two environmental groups. In poor snow seasons, visits to ski areas in many states drop, and that has cost ski resorts \$1 billion in revenue over the past decade, the Natural Resources Defense Council and Protect Our Winters said in a recent report. The winter sports industry contributes more than \$12 billion a year to the U.S. economy, according to

the study. “Climate change spells trouble for all businesses dependent on winter weather, from snowmobiling, snowboarding, and ice fishing to snowshoeing and skiing,” the groups said in the report.

**Protect Our Winters Takes Climate Change Message to the White House** - Protect Our Winters (POW) founder, Jeremy Jones, and executive director, Chris Steinkamp, visit Capitol Hill every year to encourage legislators to support climate change bills. But until recently, they’ve relied on telling the stories of athletes who have witnessed the effects of climate change or of resorts that have lost revenue as a result of unreliable snow. Last December, POW got the hard data they needed to make their case even stronger to the politicians who rely on facts and numbers. Jones and Steinkamp took those numbers to the White House where Jones was honored for his work on POW.

**Ski Areas Honored for Environmental Efforts** - The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) has presented seven U.S. ski areas with its 2013 Golden Eagle Awards for Environmental Excellence including Homewood Mountain Resort, Alta, Brighton, Snowbird and Solitude ski areas, Greek Peak (New York), and Killington Resort.

The annual **Golden Eagle Awards**, now in its 20th year, are the ski industry’s most prestigious award for recognizing ski area environmental programs and projects. Awards are given based on three ski area size categories (up to 200,000 annual skier and snowboarder visits; 200,000–500,000 visits; and more than 500,000 visits).

**Environment Policy Survey Lists ‘Best,’ In Resort Sustainability** - The 11th annual Ski Area Citizens Coalition survey on environmental practices has **Park City Mountain Resort** in Utah leading in the ratings. **Stevens Pass Ski Area** (WA), **China Peak Mountain Resort** (CA) and **Sugar Bowl Ski Resort** (CA) also got 90-plus percent scores. You can find the complete report at: <http://www.skiareacitizens.com/>.

**Ski Industries Association (SIA) sights snowsports recycling programs for keeping over 350 tons of used equipment out of landfills** - Eventually every piece of well-loved snowsports equipment needs to be retired. In order to keep gear out of landfills and new gear on the slopes, SIA’s Snow Sports Recy-

cling Program (SSRP) recycles worn ski and snowboard gear donated by consumers and retailers.

Over four seasons, SSRP has reduced more than 350 tons of used boots, skis, boards and poles collected from Rocky Mountain retailers and resorts into grinds that can be repurposed for other snowsports products. Nationwide, 68 storefronts are participating, with most in Colorado and Salt Lake City. In the near future the program will expand farther west to Boise, Albuquerque and Phoenix.

**Aspen Employees Fund 13 Environmental Projects** - The Environment Foundation, with primary funding provided by Aspen Snowmass employees, has made the largest grant in its 16-year history, donating \$50,000 to protect 220,000 acres of Federal land from oil and gas development. The land is at Thompson Divide, outside of Carbondale, Colorado. The grant is part of a total \$118,000 in donations made this spring to 13 environmental projects.

**National Visit Numbers Increase in 2012-2013** - The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) announced that U.S. ski areas tallied an estimated 56.6 million skier and snowboarder visits during the 2012/13 season. The results represent an 11 percent increase over the previous season. The previous season was one of the worst in recent history, when visits totaled an estimated 51 million, a decline of 15.7% from the 2010/11 record total of 60.54 million, according to the Kottke National End of Season Survey. This season’s numbers represent the largest year-over-year gain in 30 years.

**Retail Sales Increase in 2012-2013** - The SnowSports Industries America (SIA) RetailTRAK™ numbers for August - March 2012/2013 are total market projections based on data collected from the Point of Sale systems of more than 1,200 snowsports retailers. The 2012/2013 season brought in \$3.4B in retail revenues, up 3 percent compared with dollars sold during the previous season. By category, dollar sales in accessories increased 6%, apparel was up 3% and equipment sales were flat compared to the 2011/2012 season.

**Google Adds 38 Ski Slopes to Google Maps App** - The Google Maps app, available for free on Android devices and iPhone, now includes 38 new maps of ski runs and lifts from some of the most popular ski resorts in the United States and Canada.



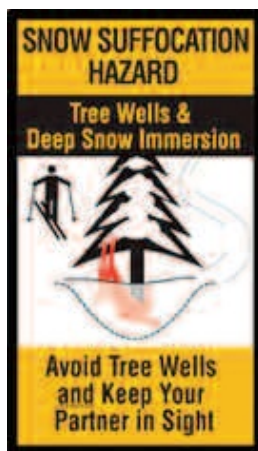
## ▲ Safety Update

The FWSA believes that safety is an important component in snowsports. We recognize that the ski resorts do an extraordinary job of minimizing hazards. FWSA supports an annual Safety Person of the Year Award, recognizing a club or council member who has contributed most to promoting on mountain safety through club or council efforts. Ultimately however, safety is based on individual responsibility and behavior.

National Safety Week has now become National Safety Month! Now the month of January will be dedicated to an entire month of safety. Many resorts across the country participate every year to educate skiers and snowboarders about being safe, and to use common sense on the slopes. Aspen/Snowmass has partnered with the FWSA for over a decade in recognizing the individual who has done the most to improve safety-consciousness. This fine award shows the Aspen/Snowmass commitment to promoting safety. Last season, more than 153,000 children and adults learned how to ski and snowboard through special promotions at ski areas across the U.S. as part of Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month! This month long effort supports the government's year round "Let's Move" initiative.

We encourage all skiers and ski clubs to promote on slope activities, presentations, articles, etc. Further details on our Safety Award may be found on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website. Skiing and snowboarding off the groomed runs and in deep powder is one of the most exciting and appealing parts of our sport. However, by leaving the groomed trails you are accepting the risk of a deep snow immersion accident. This happens when a skier or rider falls into an area of deep unconsolidated snow or tree well and becomes immobilized and suffocates. Deaths resulting from these kinds of accidents are referred to as Snow Immersion Suffocation.

NSAA has made available for distribution Tree Well and Deep Snow caution signs and brochures for resorts to use in their ef-



*Immersion accidents are not uncommon. Educate yourself about the risks and prevention of deep snow and tree well immersion accidents.*

forts to educate skiers and snowboarders about the hazards of tree wells during deep snow conditions. Ski areas are able to download the artwork and have signs made to fit the conditions at their resorts, either for on-mountain signage, printed in trail maps, posted on websites, or utilized in other mountain media.

Become educated on how to reduce the risk of SIS (Snow Immersion Suffocation) hazards through your own action and awareness. ALWAYS ski or ride with a partner within viewing distance. The website [www.deepsnowsafety.org](http://www.deepsnowsafety.org) is an excellent resource designed to assist all skiers and riders in educating themselves about the risks and prevention of deep snow and tree well immersion accidents.

**Remember: Safety is Having Fun  
Consciously**

## ▲ Trends & News Updates

SnowSports Industries America (SIA), located in McLean, VA, is the national not-for-profit, North American member-owned trade association representing suppliers of consumer snow sports with constituents in the retailer and resort communities. SIA annually produces the SIA Snow Show, the largest snowsports industry trade show and networking environment globally. SIA also provides data research, marketing products, government affairs representation, services and programs.

SIA works collectively with all components of the snowsports industry including

alpine, snowboard, telemark, cross country, snowshoe, apparel and accessories companies, retailers, resorts, regional and national associations and buying groups. SIA's goal is promoting the growth and development of snowsports. They provide the annual SIA Snow Show and provide consumer outreach programs in order to get more people on snow more often and making sure they are properly equipped and dressed to give them the best experience of snowsports. They also assist in managing and operating trade shows, business improvements, developing the snowsports industry and promoting snowsports awareness and participation. Their subsidiaries include Snowlink, Winter Trails, Winter Feels Good, Snow Sports Insiders and Ship Your Gear.

The National Association of Snowsports Journalists Association is North America's largest association of professional snowsports writers, authors, photographers, videographers, broadcasters and industry professionals.

### *Summary of important websites:*

[www.skiandsnowboardmonth.org](http://www.skiandsnowboardmonth.org) -

Ski and Snowboard Month

[www.irs.ustreas.gov/charities/index.html](http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/charities/index.html) -

Internal Revenue Service

[www.skihall.com](http://www.skihall.com) - National Ski Hall of Fame

[www.skiinghistory.org/index.php/2011/09/ski-museums-of-the-world-2/](http://www.skiinghistory.org/index.php/2011/09/ski-museums-of-the-world-2/) - Ski Museums

[www.ceq.hss.doe.gov/](http://www.ceq.hss.doe.gov/) - National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

[www.irs.fed.us](http://www.irs.fed.us) -

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

[www.bringafriend.org](http://www.bringafriend.org) - Bring A Friend to Ski

[www.fs.usda.gov/planning](http://www.fs.usda.gov/planning) -

USDA National Forest Service

[www.keepwintercool.org](http://www.keepwintercool.org) - Keep Winter Cool

[www.nsaa.org](http://www.nsaa.org) -

National Ski Areas Association

[www.trpa.org](http://www.trpa.org) -

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

[www.snowlink.com](http://www.snowlink.com) - Snowlink

[www.auburnskiclub.com/ski-museum/](http://www.auburnskiclub.com/ski-museum/) -

Auburn Ski Club/Western Ski Sports Museum

[www.nasja.org/](http://www.nasja.org/) - National Association of

Snowsports Journalists Association ▲

*The Winter Olympics will be held in Sochi, Russia between February 7-23, 2014. Athletes for the XXII Olympic Winter Games will be staying in Olympic Village. Olympic history is to be made: First held in Russian Federation - First for Woman's Ski Jumping.*

*photo courtesy of Olympics.org*





# Women's Ski Jumping USA – The Road To Sochi

by Whitney Childers  
Communications Manager, WSJUSA

## What's the story?

It is arguably the dream of every elite athlete to represent her country at the Olympic Games, the sports world's largest stage. For women ski jumpers around the world, that opportunity did not exist. Ski jumping and Nordic combined, which consists of cross-country skiing and jumping, became the only events in the Olympic Winter Games in which women were not allowed to compete like the men.

In 1991, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that all future Olympic sports must be opened to both genders, however, this excluded the nine original sports at the inaugural Olympic Winter Games in 1924, including ski jumping. Female ski jumpers petitioned to participate in the Winter Games for more than 10 years, but were continually denied.

## Why weren't they allowed to jump?

These skilled athletes ski down an in-run at nearly 60 mph and can fly the distance of a football field – and farther. But, women ski jumpers were told that jumping wasn't "appropriate for ladies...". The IOC told the jumpers that their sport lacked universality – despite having more athletes and more countries competing internationally at the elite level than other Winter Olympic sports for women such as bobsleigh and ski cross. In 2010 alone, nearly 180 women jumpers from 18 nations competed in International Ski Federation-sanctioned competitions.

## Vancouver Court Case

In 2008, Lindsey Van and Jessica Jerome, two of the most decorated women ski jumpers in the U.S., teamed up with 13 women jumpers from five countries to sue the Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC) for their right to compete in the 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The historic human rights legal battle resulted in the British Columbia Supreme Court declaring in 2009 that the IOC exhibited gender discrimination by excluding women's ski jumping from the Vancouver Games, but stopped short of forcing VANOC and the IOC to hold an event for women. The women appealed, but the appeals court came to the same conclusion as the BC Supreme Court.

The notoriety of their battle to be in-

cluded in the Olympic Winter Games caused many critics to allege that their exclusion was baseless and grounded on antiquated notions of female athletes' abilities (*not unlike what was said in the 70s and 80s about women marathoners*). Before the Vancouver Games in 2010, Van held the K95 Vancouver hill record of 105.5 meters, a mark higher than any competitor's, woman or man.

## Will they get to jump in the Games?

On April 6, 2011, the IOC finally announced that a women's ski jumping event would be added to the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games program. The women will have one event – normal hill competition. The men have three events (normal hill, large hill and team competition).

## About Women's Ski Jumping USA

Women's Ski Jumping USA, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is the primary support organization for the U.S. Women's Ski Jumping Team. WSJ-USA



*Sarah Hendrickson (center) took her second US National title (LH) on August 4 in Park City, Utah. Jessica Jerome (left) was 2nd and Lindsey Van (right) was 3rd.*

has two staff members and two coaches. It remains mostly a volunteer organization and works hard to raise the necessary funds to pay for the women's coach, travel expenses, training equipment and junior developmental programs for young girls.



*Sarah Hendrickson continued her string of victories and high finishes, winning the US Women's Jumping Championships on August 4. She jumped with a field of competitors that included jumpers from Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club, the Altius Nordic Ski Club of Calgary and Lake Placid.*



### No. 1 in the world

Women ski jumpers competed on the lower-tier Continental Cup for seven years. In 2010, the International Ski Federation approved a World Cup circuit for women that debuted in the 2011/2012 season. The U.S. Women's Ski Jumping Team (Visa Team) won the overall Nations title two years in a row to become the No. 1 team in the world (2012 and 2013 sea-

sons). Team members include Lindsey Van, Jessica Jerome, Sarah Hendrickson, Abby Hughes, Alissa Johnson and Nina Lussi

The road to Sochi was long and hard. It definitely had its ups and downs. But, on February 11, 2014, the women jumpers will finally reach their destination - and their goal. They will debut on the Olympic scene - making history. They are READY TO FLY! ▲▲

**“The.  
Best.  
Feeling.  
Ever!”**



After winning the inaugural World Cup overall title in 2012, Sarah Hendrickson wins gold in the 2013 World Ski Jumping Championships in Val di Fiemme, Italy. Jessica Jerome placed 6th. Hendrickson celebrates with teammates Abby Hughes, Jessica Jerome, Lindsey Van, and Alissa Johnson. Sarah found it hard to describe her feelings right after becoming only the third woman in history to win a ski jumping World Championship, so she did it simply. “The. Best. Feeling. Ever!” Photo by Sarah Brunson/USSA

“Ready To Fly” is a documentary feature film about Lindsey Van and her teammates as they battle to get their sport into the Olympic Winter Games. It premiered in 2012. It was featured at the 2012 FWSA Convention Film Fest held in Ogden, Utah, as well as, appeared in numerous other film festivals held throughout the U.S. and Canada. It won several awards, including “Best Feature Film” at the prestigious Banff Mountain Film Festival.

Documentary Feature Film, **Ready To Fly** WATCH TRAILER and LEARN MORE: <http://www.readytoflyfilm.com>

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## 2013 WESTERN REGION SKI SHOWS

compiled by Mary Olhausen  
and Linda Scott

### NOVEMBER

#### Park City Ski Swap

November 8-9  
Basin Recreation Field House,  
Park City, UT

#### Colorado Ski & Snowboard Expo

November 8-10  
Colorado Convention Center,  
Denver, CO

#### Ski Dazzle Seattle, Ski Show & Snowboard Expo

November 8-10  
Century Link Field, Seattle, WA

#### San Diego Snow Jam

November 8-10  
Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, CA

#### SnowBomb Ski & Snowboard Festival - San Francisco

November 9-10  
AT&T Park, San Francisco, CA

#### Portland Show

November 15-17  
Portland Expo Center, Portland, OR

#### UNR Ski Swap

November 15-17  
Grand Sierra, Reno, NV

#### SnowBomb Sacramento Ski & Snowboard Festival

November 16-17  
Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA

#### Las Vegas Snow Jam

November 23-24  
Cashman Field Center, Las Vegas, NV

#### SnowBomb Silicon Valley Ski & Snowboard Festival

November 23-24  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds,  
San Jose, CA

### DECEMBER

#### Ski Dazzle Los Angeles

Ski Show & Snowboard Expo  
December 5-8

LA Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA

#### Ski Pro Avalanche Ski Sale

Dates to be determined  
Phoenix Convention Center,  
Phoenix, AZ



# High Hopes Exist for an Olympic & Far West Ski History Museum In Squaw Valley

by Eddy Starr Ancinas

*A founding member of the Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation*

From the Gold Rush miners speeding down the mountain at 80 miles an hour, to an Olympics known to athletes the world over as the best ever, to the Sierra-bred Olympians – still speeding down the mountain at 80 miles an hour (albeit, on shorter skis) – Squaw Valley, the Lake Tahoe Region and all of the northern Sierra Nevada have unique stories to tell of ski pioneers, entrepreneurs and the region's amazing athletes.

With that in mind, a group of local skiers and ski-history buffs founded the Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation in 2008 -- determined to tell the incredible story of the VIII Winter Games and the 150-year history of winter sports in the Sierra Nevada.

The Board envisioned a world class museum of local, regional and international interest, with interactive exhibits, multi-media, archival preservation, oral histories and on-going programs for all ages. It would be housed in a building of architectural and environmental significance, with galleries dedicated to the 1960 Olympics as well as Far West ski history, plus a small theater, classroom, library, archive room and a museum shop.

A Far West Region Hall of Fame would permanently honor ski champions from northern Sierra ski teams, along with the visionaries and local legends that make up the colorful ski community.

Early on, the Board recognized the importance of location. With funds from the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association and expertise from museum planners, architects and a local engineering firm, the Board studied the pros and cons of "up valley" (in the ski area), mid valley (with view to the mountain) or at the entrance to the valley (high visibility on main highway). The final conclusion was that the Squaw Valley Park at the entrance to the valley provided the best location for an iconic building to house a Hall of Fame, a Visitor's Center, the collection from the Auburn Ski Club's Western SkiSport Museum on Donner Summit at Boreal Mountain Resort, and all the Olympic artifacts lying in garages, closets and cabins throughout the area. In fact, the Ski Museum Foundation is now in a race to collect, preserve and exhibit hidden private collections before they are gone. Realizing that this collection would represent not only the Squaw Valley Olympics, but the history of skiing from all Far West ski areas, the museum board determined that the museum needs to be an independent historical institution located outside of a ski area with year around access to all visitors to the North Lake Tahoe Area.

After a master plan of a museum located in



***This is the cover page from the proposal Squaw Valley Ski Museum Foundation has before Placer County. It contains the revised concept of all the work the committee has completed.*** photo provided by Bill Clark

the park was presented to the community, the Board learned that some Squaw Valley residents had concerns about a museum in the park. A community site committee was formed, including the leader of the opposition. After nine meetings held over twelve months, wherein the pros and cons of all locations were thoroughly examined, a final vote was taken. The result: 9 to 1 in favor of the park.

In December, 2010, the Squaw Valley Museum Board partnered with the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the 1960 Olympics at an Olympic Gala held at the Resort at Squaw Creek. When the MC asked the Olympians among the 600 guests to stand, an impressive number of past and present Olympians stood to a thunderous applause.

This show of enthusiasm for Squaw's Olympic history was further demonstrated by the interest shown by the many visitors who visited a temporary museum in the Squaw Valley Village, managed by the Squaw Valley Museum volunteers during the winter of 2010-2011.

As interest in a Squaw Valley Olympic Museum grew beyond our local area and included skiers from all over California, Nevada and even foreign visitors, the Board continued with public outreach to Squaw Valley residents and members of the greater community. Although the Board promised not to "interfere with any of the present or planned activities and recreation in the park" (i.e. soccer, Pickle Ball and

a tot lot), the county supervisor joined the small number of Squaw Valley dissidents, who continued to resist the possibility of an Olympic Museum in the park.

Thoughts returned to the site across the road from the Tower of Nations site. Although previously eliminated for its unsightly development, electrical wires, awkward easements and the fact that the property is owned by the Poulsen family; the Board agreed to re-investigate. A year later, having established that the land was not for sale, the overhead transmission lines could not be moved, easements across county land could not be changed; the Board hired a project manager and consulting firm to help them move on to secure the only viable location for the museum they had worked four years to establish (the park).

With a revised concept, a much smaller footprint on the land and a new design by San Francisco architect, Peter Pfau; the Museum Board, with the help of their consultants, prepared a booklet with a revised Museum concept describing the history of their project and the proposed new concept. Bill Clark, president of the Squaw Valley Museum Board, met county officials and supervisors, with the ultimate goal of presenting the plan at the Board of Supervisors Meeting in Tahoe City on July 23, 2013.

However, just before that much anticipated event, the county CEO called the Museum Board to a meeting to consider; once again, the Poulsen property across the road. He announced the county's desire to work with the Poulsen family on creating a Master Plan that could include a viable site for the museum. The Board agreed to wait six months (January 2014), with periodic updates.

Meanwhile, the Lake Placid Olympic Museum welcomes 35,000 visitors a year. The Alf Engen Museum and the George Eccles 2002 Olympic Winter Games Exhibits in Park City reported 160,000 in 2008. An economic impact study conducted by the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association in 2008 projected 80,000 visitors to the Squaw Valley museum the first year, 100,000 the second year.

Will the story of the 1960 Olympics be told and displayed in one place for all the world to see? Will knowledge of our western winter sports history be made known to curious visitors, locals, students and historians? Will past, present and future athletes have a special place that recognizes their accomplishments? Hopefully, these questions will be answered when Placer County either approves the park site or makes the other side of the road a viable option. ▲▲



# **ZERMATT:** ***WHERE LEGENDS MEET!***

*by Jimmy Petterson*



*Klaus Arpia (red jacket) and Hans Müssbichler make first tracks in the fresh powder as they descend a slope near Zermatt. photo by Jimmy Petterson*



When it comes to skiing, Zermatt was there at the forefront, having built the world-famous Gornergrat Railway in 1898 and opening its first ski school in 1902. It is the classic ski resort. It is difficult to describe Zermatt without using as many superlatives as a Mercedes advertisement. It is a legendary venue for skiing and well deserving of legend status.

Zermatt has the largest number of high-capacity lifts in the world. It is in the top ten worldwide in vertical drop with 2200 meters of skiing top to bottom. It also has one of the ten longest runs in the world, a 15-kilometer journey from the top of the Klein Matterhorn back to the village. (*Editor's note: One meter equals 3.28'.*)

For those who prefer après-ski, Zermatt also ranks among the top ten ski resorts worldwide, with eight nightclubs and well over 100 eateries. To top it all off, it has the highest lift in the Alps, which takes visitors to 3899 meters, and some of the most stunning mountain vistas anywhere. One can view from here no less than 38 peaks that exceed 4000 meters, and the imposing ice of glacial seracs and huge crevasses add an additional intensity to the surrounding nature that can be replicated in very few ski areas.

Zermatt has all that, and then there is the Matterhorn! It stands alone at the end of the valley like a giant citadel. It is gorgeous, stunning, staggering, stupendous, spectacular, magnificent, awesome and inspirational, but that entire description doesn't really do it justice. It is the perfect mountain! The mere sight of the Matterhorn towering over the end of the valley is enough to make a devout atheist drop to his knees, genuflect and pray. God must have apprenticed and practiced mountain building with the other million-odd peaks and precipices in the world; then, I imagine that once he was an accomplished master, he created the Matterhorn as his final work.

The legendary mountain naturally creates additional legends that bask in its aura and feed off its notoriety. Edward Whymper was the first to be touched by Matterhorn glory, following his triumph over the peak in 1865. Ulrich Inderbinen has probably shared the spotlight with the Horn most often. Ulrich was a local lad who became a mountain guide early in the 20th century, climbed the Matterhorn over 350 times, and still put his footprints on the peak after his 90th birthday.

Despite the Horn's apparent impregnability, novice climbers can climb its east face with relative ease, while the north wall has probably conquered more climbers than the other way around. French extreme skier, Jean-Marc Boivin has even made a descent of the east side of the mountain, but I was very content to just glide around in the shadow of this Swiss monolith.

Keith Johnston and Martin Söderqvist were my companions on a spring visit to Zermatt. With the five days we had at our disposal, we could only scratch the surface of the skiing possibilities. Zermatt, together with neighboring Cervinia and Valtournenche, has almost 400 kilometers of pistes and enough off-piste descents in between the marked runs to keep experts discovering routes for years.

Nevertheless, it is easy to come to some general conclusions. To begin with, Zermatt has great skiing for all ability groups. Nowhere in the world can beginners and intermediates cruise along wide boulevards of snow with more beautiful backdrops and vistas than here in Zermatt. The altitude almost guarantees perfect packed powder on the easy upper slopes of the mountains, even late in the season.

Experts will also not be disappointed. Despite its renown, there are plenty of uncrowded trails where advanced skiers can shift into fifth gear. The terrain is extremely varied. Off-piste enthusiasts can lay tracks among the seracs high on the glaciers of the upper mountain or weave their way through the trees on 40 - 45-degree glades under-

neath the Schwarzsee. Narrow couloirs and gullies that would be permanently forbidden terrain in many ski areas of the world are marked pistes in Zermatt.

The ski area can be divided into five general regions: the Sunegga, the Gornergrat and the Klein Matterhorn on the Zermatt side of the ski area, plus Cervinia and Valtournenche on the south side. Generally speaking, the upper mountain of the Klein Matterhorn and the Cervinia side provide easier skiing, while all the other areas have a more mixed offering. On our first day, we were looking for good freeride terrain and Zermatt has an abundance of that. We warmed up with a couple of runs down the National piste, which has served in the past as a venue for FIS giant slalom races. All the while, we hungrily eyed the vast kilometers of steep, north-facing slopes off the back of the Gornergrat. We could not hold out for long, as the call of the powder was too strong. Before much time had passed, we found ourselves diving off the top of the Rote Nase, the last stop above the Gornergrat. We circumvented a few crevasses and swooped down through soft virgin snow.

Even the ride up is an experience on the Gornergrat, a cogwheel train that is, for all intents and purposes, a functioning museum piece. If one rides the train from the bottom, one should try, at all costs, to get a seat. If you are one of the unlucky standing-room passengers, prepare yourself for a full 40 minutes of standing in your ski boots, with your arm outstretched to hold onto a ceiling strap for support. You might not get your blood circulation back into that arm until lunchtime.



***The Matterhorn stands alone at the end of the valley like a giant citadel. It is gorgeous, stunning, staggering, stupendous, spectacular, magnificent, awesome and inspirational, but that entire description doesn't really do it justice. The skier is Martin Söderqvist.***

*photo by Jimmy Petterson*

Sitting comfortably in one of the seats, however, is one of the most pleasant ways to ride up a mountain. Bring a beer and a sandwich, enjoy the Swiss scenery unfolding outside your window and imagine what skiing was like a hundred years ago.

As I sat comfortably watching the Swiss Alps go by, I could not help but think about a cocktail party story from long ago. My parents' friend, Walter Braun, described the Gornergrat experience of the 1950s, a time when the skiing public had grown much more quickly than the industry's ability to increase lift capacity.

Walter's description went something like this: "We stood packed so close together that the smell of yesterday's evening meal emanated strongly from the mouths of most of the surrounding skiers. We knew about the long



*ride up the Gornergrat, but as a skier weaned on American ski etiquette, we stood no chance. A traffic light signaled the eminent approach of the old train by first changing from red to orange and then turning green, as a metal gate simultaneously began to slowly withdraw to allow us to board."*

*"Even before the amber lamp lit up, the train came into view and people began clambering over the restraining gate. They used their ski poles adroitly to assure themselves a clear path to the train. The men bullied their way ahead of their families, threw down gloves, ski caps, rucksacks and parkas on every seat within arms length and firmly bellowed, 'Besetzt!' (occupied) 'Besetzt! Besetzt! Besetzt!' Their hoarse hollers and a belligerent stare were generally enough to ward off any attempt by the meek to wrest away one of the half-dozen seats which each of these people was saving for his family and friends."*



***Zermatt has the highest lift in the Alps, which takes visitors to 3,899 meters (12,791 feet), and some of the most stunning mountain vistas anywhere.*** photo courtesy of Zermatt Tourism

I chuckled to myself at this old tale and thought how much had changed through the years. The Gornergrat still had all its old charm, but Zermatt's lift capacity has increased greatly over the years and most of the time, one can nowadays avoid Walter Braun's trauma.

The Gornergrat affords stupendous views of the Monte Rosa (4634 m) and the Gorner Glacier, and the pistes are simple enough so that cruisers can keep one eye on the piste and the other on the wondrous surrounding nature. There is even plenty of easy terrain beside the piste for would-be powder skiers to practice in the fluff between the top station and the Riffelberg stop, about 500 vertical meters further down.

Below the beautiful Riffelberg Hotel, however, those who veer off the piste need full focus on where they are going, and even that may not be enough. Steep pitches and couloirs are situated perilously close to sheer cliffs, and skiers who venture too far to the south might find that their options are the last cliff jump of their life or a long hike back up. We miscalculated our line but realized our mistake in enough time that a mere half-hour hike got us rerouted into the couloirs rather than over the cliffs.

The north side of the mountain from the top of the Gornergrat is the home of the Kelle Piste and various steep powder descents between the rocks. This time, we scouted the territory carefully from the opposite side before venturing into no-man's-land. There was more than enough of interest to keep us busy for the rest of the day.

Our second day was devoted to the massive amount of territory on both the Swiss and Italian sides of the Klein Matterhorn region. This is an impressive experience before one even mounts one's boards.

Our third cable car of the morning took us smack into the cliff face of the Klein Matterhorn. Swiss mountain engineering never ceases to amaze me, and this is one of the better examples of the remarkable Swiss mastery over their jagged habitat.

Shortly after one walks through a long tunnel and emerges on the south side of the peak, a sign beckons visitors to visit the Gletschergrotte (glacier cave). This is a worthwhile side excursion for everybody and a must if one has children. A visit does not take much more than 20 minutes of one's time, and one can see a number of displays of ice carvings. In addition, one can view crevasses from the unusual underside, looking up.

The Swiss side of the upper mountain is a fabulous place for inexperienced skiers to hone their skills in a high alpine milieu. Skiing here will have them gawking and gaping in all directions. In this environment of ice and granite cliffs, gaping crevasses and the omnipresent Matterhorn, visitors can hardly help but feel close to the Creator.

The Italian side of the mountain down to Breuil-Cervinia and Val-tournanche is a wide-open playground for intermediates. Most skiers with even a few weeks of experience are able to ski much of this terrain unhindered.

We were looking for something more difficult, so we dropped off the Ventina Ghiacciaio piste and into the untracked snow under the uppermost cable car of the Cervinia lift system. The snow had seen too much sun, and definitely provided a formidable challenge. We jumped through the crusty fare until we finally met back up with the piste. By this time, we were quite happy to relax and enjoy the cruising territory that makes up most of this region. We replenished our carbohydrates with some Italian pasta before working our way back to Switzerland.

At dinnertime, we met up with another class act and legend who has had a long association with this area, Sylvain Saudan. Sylvain's connection with Zermatt dates back to one of his early steep skiing expeditions, a memorable conquest of the Marinelli Couloir from Zermatt down into Italy. The descent has an average gradient of between 50 and 55 degrees, an inclination that may not sound that devastating by today's standards unless one knows that the couloir dives down a full 2300 vertical meters!

We are not talking about threading the tightrope between life and death for a handful of turns, arcing into a tuck and taking the last couple hundred meters in a schuss! Saudan's run down the Marinelli couloir was not only a case of maintaining his balance on a deadly face, it was a feat of endurance that makes most of today's extreme exploits in the short chutes around Valdez pale by comparison. Then, take into consideration the difference between Sylvain's 1960s equipment and today's gear, and his accomplishments are akin to Hermann Maier gunning down the Hahnenkamm on a pair of cross-country boards.

The 21st-Century version of skiing, which spotlights extreme skiing as a competitive sport and has seen "off-piste" skiing reinvented, expanded and marketed as "freeride" skiing, owes a lot to Saudan, who started it all back in the mid-1960s.

His descent of Mt. McKinley in Alaska from an altitude of 6200 meters down to 1900 meters was, at that time, the longest descent ever made. The father of extreme skiing was still at it in 1982, when his plunge from Hidden Peak in Pakistan was man's first run from an 8000-meter peak.

Sylvain joined us for a raclette dinner and brought us up to date on what he is involved with now. Today, Sylvain no longer puts his life on the line in the pursuit of the extreme, but he also has no thoughts of putting his skis in mothballs.





*Zermatt is situated at the southern end of the Matter Valley. The town is almost completely surrounded by four-thousanders peaks in the Pennine Alps, including Switzerland's highest peak - Dufourspitze - the main peak of Monte Rosa at 4,634 meters (15,203') and the iconic Matterhorn at 4,478 meters (14,690"). photo courtesy of Zermatt Tourism*

"I am not ready for zee retirement," Sylvain said. "How can one retire when one 'as only been having fun zee whole life."

Among other things, he usually spends November and December on the Zermatt glaciers, advising, instructing and imparting knowledge and ski philosophy to skiers eager to improve their technique. He can take pleasure in the fact that he has been among a few extreme skiers who have survived to tell their stories to a younger generation. During his early years, Sylvain basked in the sunshine of his accomplishments, but in recent times he gets his greatest enjoyment from sharing.

Unfortunately, Sylvain was on his way back to Chamonix, and we did not have the opportunity to ski with the old master. We were lucky enough, however, to have the head of the Stoked Ski School, Üli Bärfuss, to give us tips and guide us around the following day.

As the crowds headed en masse up the route toward Italy that we had tried the previous day, Üli guided us to the Schwarzsee section of the ski area, a region that offers transport on the new Matterhorn Express gondola and no more than two other lifts. As is so often the case, a meager offering of uphill transport disguised the fact that the downhill possibilities were disproportionately large.

Most skiers in this area putter around a couple of blue pistes that connect Schwarzsee with Furi. In between those unspectacular routes, however, are the Aroleid, Tiefbach and Momatt pistes, plus a wide expanse of ultra-steep tree-skiing. Most ski resorts would deem these Zermatt runs as avalanche gullies and rope them off. In fact, one of them, the Momatt descent, cannot be opened early in the season, as the frozen waterfall in the guts of the gully must first be covered with enough snow to render it skiable. When Üli led us into these chutes five days after the last snowfall, the runs were still untouched.

*Note: The FWSA International Ski Week will be held in Zermatt, Switzerland in March, 2014. Jimmy Petterson, author of the Skiing Around the World book has contributed often to the Far West Skier's Guide. He resides in Sweden and is a multiple FWSA Bill Berry Award winner.*

For the next three days, we were certainly the most regular patrons of this prime Zermatt real estate, as we skied laps among these virgin forest routes. It was almost too easy, requiring no traversing and no walking. We merely dropped off the main trail partway down the run and laid a long series of turns around well spaced trees, stumps and bushes. At the bottom, one long schuss brought us back to the lift.

We would have been quite content to continue this pattern run after run, but Üli apparently thought we required a bit of variety for our last day. He led us on the trail toward the Hörnlihütte, used by climbers ascending the east face of the Matterhorn. I got a good set of sweaty palms at one passage, as the path followed a narrow ledge above a sheer cliff. Once past this obstacle, the rest of the hike was a cakewalk.

Soon, we were carving up the powder, closer to the Matterhorn than ever. We felt tiny and humble so near to the base of this grand peak. The run was a fitting climax to our short stay in Zermatt.

For skiers who wish to be humbled by Mother Nature's grandeur, Zermatt and the Matterhorn should definitely be paid a visit. If you happen to visit in the late fall, it could also be fun to ski a few turns with the other local legend, Sylvain.

If you happen to stand near the Matterhorn with Sylvain in the late afternoon, ask him to relate a couple of tales of his adventures. He is one of the greatest storytellers that I have ever met. As the sun drops low in the sky, you may notice that the towering peak and the short Swiss skier cast a shadow of equal length. As Sylvain's story paints you a picture, you might just ponder if the Matterhorn isn't listening as well, with just a touch of admiration, for it is normal for both parties to stand up and take notice when legends meet. ▲▲



# Has Technology Made Skiing Safer?

*'In an effort to get more connected with the world globally, some have ignored being in tune with their present surroundings'*

by Richard Lubin, D.C.

*"The Snowboarding Chiropractor", Safety Chair, FWSA*

Skiing can be an activity of getting away from technology. ....or not. Cell phones, MP3 players, GPS, are things that were not around much 15 or 20 years ago. For the most part, these technological improvements have made the sport safer. There are, however, offsetting risks. Let's explore some.

## PHONE USE AND TEXTING

These gadgets can be so helpful in locating emergency help or meeting up with your friends and family. Smart phones are small computers with GPS abilities, weather, traffic, and so many attributes making them a tremendous safety asset. There is an extraordinary number of safety studies regarding phone use texting and driving. There is little doubt that there are increased auto accidents because these activities take attention away. For this reason legislation has been enacted to help control these behaviors.

Usage is greater in the younger population. Studies show that teenagers with smart phones average sending about 100 text messages per day. People DO use phones and even text while they are skiing or riding. Losing focus or attention can lead to accidents. One can observe people stopped in the middle of the trail doing these activities, oblivious to the traffic approaching. This often happens just after the exit off of a ski lift. Snowboarders are famous for this.

## MUSIC

Hearing is one of those senses that make us more aware of what's happening around us. While having tunes can enhance the whole experience,

it can also decrease your ability to hear anything. "On your left" can be a great warning when approaching another skier, but only if they can hear. Occasionally one also needs to hear approaching snowmobiles or snowcats. Listening to tunes is so popular that it is not unusual to see all six persons on a 'six pack' lift with headsets on. What happened to talking to other people?

## HELMETS

It is great that helmet use is way up. They are mandated by some resorts for their employees. Many new helmets have integrated headphones. The design of some helmets can impair hearing because the ear holes can be blocked. While helmet use has continued to climb, overall mortality rate has stayed about the same, an interesting paradox.

## EQUIPMENT

Skis, snowboards, and bindings are all more advanced and better than in the past. Shaped skis make turning easier because they are curved. Many studies have shown that there are an increased number of knee (ACL) injuries with shaped skis. If one loses control and starts to fall, the ski wants to turn on its own. When the knee turns out it creates a lot of torsion.

It is one of the main mechanisms for tearing this important ligament.

often makes that video even more popular. Skiers and snowboarders, often young ones, will try to emulate these fabulous feats which can often result in injuries offsetting the potentially positive effect that media can have.

## SMART GOGGLES

One of the most exciting new developments in technology are high tech goggles. A few manufacturers are now making ski goggles with 'heads up' displays. If you have heard of Google glass, it is similar. A small monitor inside the goggles allows you to look at many pieces of information like your speed, elevation, the music that's playing and even your text messages while you are skiing. These fabulous devices may make skiing a lot safer by being able to assess your position and even find emergency services. The liability is that it takes attention. Moving your eyeball takes about a 1/10th of a second and at least that long again to process the information. If you were skiing at 30 miles an hour, not an unreasonable speed, you travel 44 feet in one second. By the time you have a chance to look, you may have traveled eight or ten feet or more. If you were reading a text message imagine the delay. Taking your eyes off your task could be very hazardous. A lot of serious things can happen to you when your attention is diverted, even momentarily.

## CONCLUSION

The issues discussed above have not been studied much with regards to snowsports safety. We do know that if you are distracted you place yourself and others at risk. The group that gets into the most serious accidents skiing and snowboarding is still the same demographic. It is males from their late teens through their 20s. This is also a target group of phone/text abusers. In an effort to get more connected with the world globally, some have ignored being in tune with their present surroundings.

Technology has made skiing and snowboarding safer in so many ways. But, like many other activities, there are offsetting risk phenomena that can pose safety hazards. ▲▲

## SAFETY IS THINKING FIRST

## MEDIA

We have so much more exposure to media than 20 or even 10 years ago. *YouTube* or other videos can be viewed on phones, TVs, tablets, or computers easily. On the positive side, one can see many videos on safety, proper technique, or other aspects of safety preparedness. What we usually see is fabulous, daring, and even dangerous board or ski tricks that only highly skilled persons can do safely. If there is a big crash, that

*Technology has made skiing and snowboarding safer in so many ways. But, like many other activities, there are offsetting risk phenomena that can pose safety hazards.*



# How Well Do You Know Your Resorts?

by Leigh Gieringer

According to the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) there were 477 ski resorts operating during the 2012-2013 season in the United States alone. There are numerous other ski areas throughout the rest of the world. It is almost impossible to detect where a photograph was taken when there is a beautiful action shot with abundant powder flying behind the rider. In fact, it can sometimes be difficult to detect if the snowrider is on a pair of skis or a snowboard, unless a ski pole can be located somewhere in the photograph. Focus the camera to a wider view and little hints can immerge. How well do you know your resorts?

Many ski resorts are small local resorts that are popular for easy accessibility and convenience. The larger - especially destination resorts - have to distinguish themselves. They have developed their own personalities. There is something that makes them unique. Some are noted for their dependable snow and corduroy trails. Some are known for their wonderful cruisers. Others cater to advanced only snowriders, while still others have excellent learning slopes. Many resorts are attractive for their après ski activities. And, then there are those that offer the complete package.



*Some resorts have recognizable landscape features within the resorts, or nearby!*





*Some resorts have beautiful water views, or identifiable by the shape of their peaks!*





*Some resorts have recognizable main streets!*



10



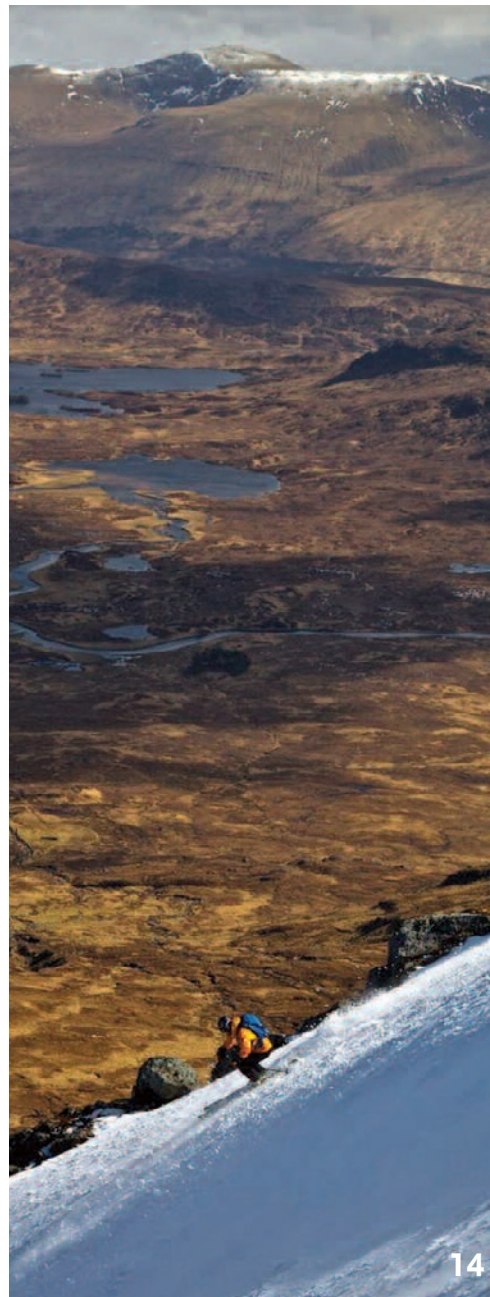
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*How  
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These five pages have images from several resorts. Most of them are in North America - either western United States or western Canada. Some will be fairly easy to recognize since they are world-class resorts. Many of us have been to them! Others are located in other countries. Perhaps you've been to them on a FWSA International Ski Week? Some are less known, but are still unique. There is something in the picture that will distinguish them. And, there is no duplication.

How many resorts can you identify before looking at the answers? How many have you experienced? Take part in our fun quiz. Further information can be found on page 65. The answers can be found in the Digital Edition of the 2013-2014 *Far West Skier's Guide*.







*Some resorts have created interesting structures to get to the slopes. Some offer dramatic chutes, couloirs or rocky buttes.*



*Most resorts offer many activities to enjoy when not on the slopes. The mountain in the background should provide a needed hint to narrow it down to the which world-class resort is pictured above. Horse drawn sleigh rides are a very popular activity here! Combining the ride with a fine meal will make the experience even better!*





20

## How well did you do?

Each picture is numbered. Write the name of the resort next to the corresponding number. Please indicate how many you identified before looking at the answers which can be found on the link in the next column or at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Send the list to:

**Resort Identification Quiz**  
**Far West Skier's Guide**  
 3115 South Price Road  
 Chandler, AZ 85248

Entries must be received prior to April 1, 2014. Include your name and contact information - phone or e-mail address. All correct entries received will be placed in a drawing at the 2014 FWSA Annual Convention being held in June. The winning entry will receive a prize. The winner does not have to be present to win. ▲▲

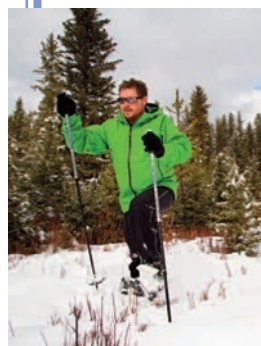


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*Powder; powder everywhere? Some resorts are known for their abundant snowfall, solitude, exquisite winter beauty, glade skiing and powder caches. The top picture was taken in June, 2013. And, it is not in the Southern Hemisphere!*



**Winter Wonderlands!**  
 Yellowstone National Park, located in Montana's Yellowstone Country, is truly a winter wonderland.

Photo / Dave Hebert

## CHECK OUT THESE ARTICLES AND MORE IN OUR DIGITAL EDITION



### Don't Miss End of Season Fun

*Those last weekends before resorts close for the season are filled with warm weather, spring skiing and celebration. Pond Skimming /Sun Valley*

### A DIFFERENT WAY TO SEE THE WORLD!



*What an ideal way to see the region. Pass through picturesque towns and hamlets as you travel along a majestic river:*

photo / Bike Tours Direct



**How Well Do You Know Your Resorts?**  
*How many ski resorts did you recognize? Click here to learn the answers!*

23

photo / Jimmy Petterson

<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/farwestskiersguide/2013-14/>



A full-page photograph of a winter scene in Yellowstone National Park. In the background, a large geyser erupts, sending a thick plume of white steam high into a clear blue sky. The surrounding landscape is covered in snow, with patches of brown, mineral-rich earth visible. In the foreground, a dark, circular hot spring with a vibrant turquoise center is nestled within a rocky, mineral-encrusted rim. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

# **Yellowstone: A Winter Experience Like No Other.**

by Leigh Gieringer



**Y**ellowstone, established in 1872, offers a winter experience like no other. The park is populated by a large variety of wildlife, including both grizzly and black bears, elk, bison, wolves, eagles and a number of other species, most of which are out and about during the winter months. It also provides the backdrop for a large number of geologic and geothermal features, such as geysers, hot springs, rivers, waterfalls and canyons, that are the iconic signatures of the park.

The granddaddy of all cross-country ski experiences, Yellowstone National Park enables visits to areas otherwise inaccessible by any other means. Daily guided snowmobile tours, snowshoeing and snow coach tours also allow visitors to experience and explore areas of the park that are not accessible via other methods or at other times of the year. The park, that many say is at its most serene splendor in the snow-blanketed winter season, is also less crowded from mid-December to mid-March, affording those who visit at this time of year an unparalleled perspective of this national treasure. Many of the villages and notable areas of the park can be visited during the winter months, although most are accessible only via the over-the-snow methods. Lodging throughout the park is available during the winter season, from a yurt experience at Canyon Village to hotel rooms to majestic private suites, all of which boast spectacular views nestled in the surreal surroundings.

Back to its earliest beginnings as a National Park, the area was mostly a summer attraction due to the active and unusual thermal activity. Winters were harsh, transportation and lodging were almost non-existent. Wildlife was always abundant,

and it is thought by historians that it was the hunters who first ventured into this inhospitable area. There were no hunting restrictions - until the U.S. Army took over park operations in 1886.

The hunters most likely entered the snow-covered lands on "Long Boards" commonly called Norwegian Snowshoes which were 10-12 foot long boards resembling present day wide skis, but much longer. They propelled themselves with a single long, wooden pole. Few visitors - ie. tourists - entered when the ground was covered in snow. With time, Park Rangers stayed through the winter months.

Eventually, with lodging accommodations accessible, and better ski equipment and snowshoes, plus snow machines of various kinds, more and more visitors desired to see the splendor of the park when it is blanketed in white powder.

Yellowstone National Park has five entrances, but access to them will be effected by weather conditions. The North Entrance is the only gateway into the Park for wheeled vehicles year around. The other entrances are only accessible by snow coaches, snow vans, snowmobiles and the park Bombardiers - teardrop-shaped snow vehicles designed to navigate Yellowstone's unplowed roads during the winter months - and skis or snowshoes

With restrictions on individual snowmobiles being placed in more recent years, "muscle" powered activity has expanded. Nordic skiing and snowshoeing have become increasingly popular. However, it is by no means overcrowded since the numbers of visitors are controlled. The park's serenity is maintained.

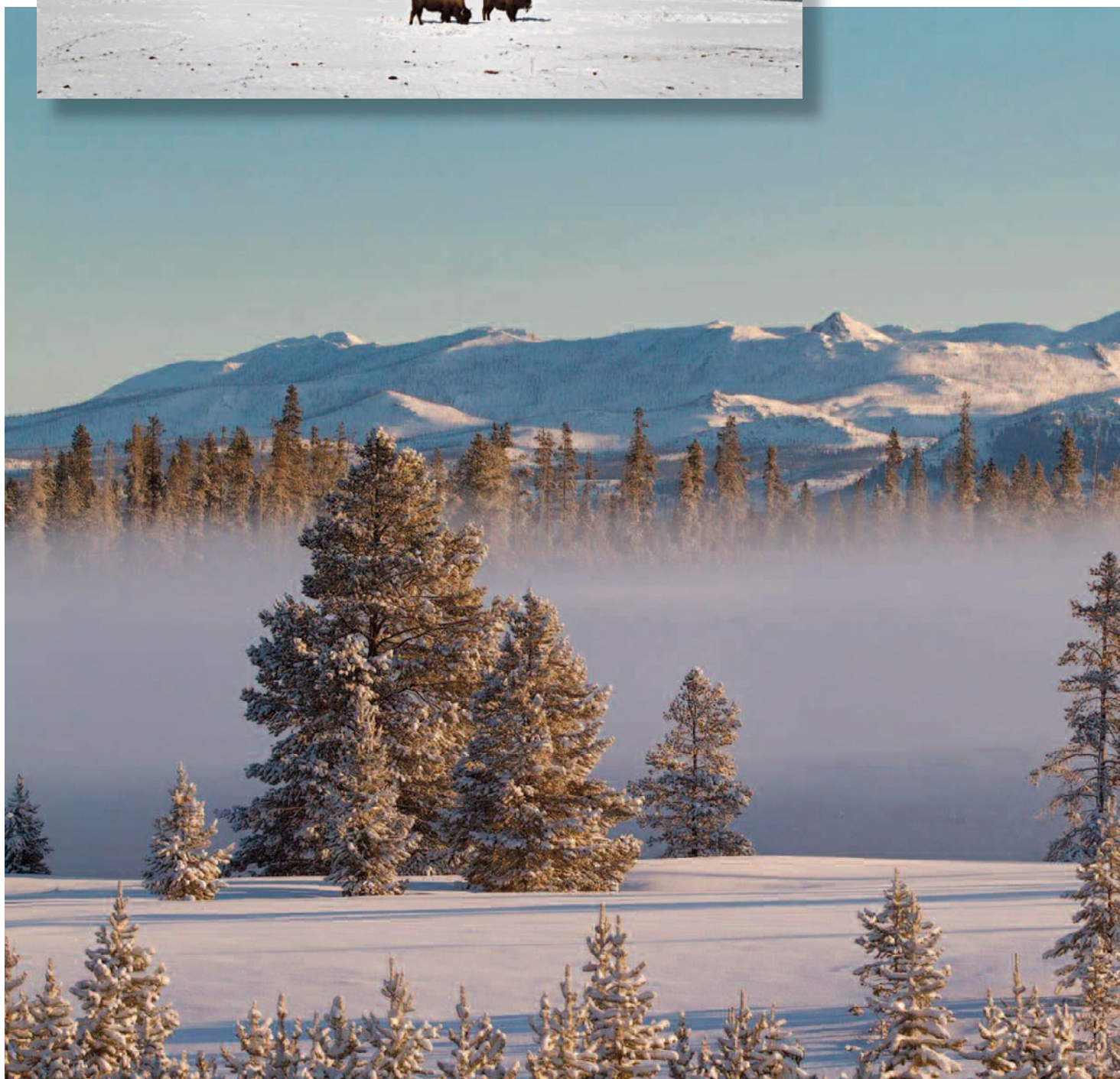
**LEFT: Yellowstone National Park has a large geothermal ecosystem and (LOWER:) is home to abundant and diverse wildlife, which often times can be seen while skiing or snowshoeing around the Park.** *photos courtesy of Yellowstone National Park / Dave Hebert, photographer*







*Yellowstone National Park spans an area of 3,468.4 square miles comprised of lakes, canyons, rivers and mountain ranges. Half of the world's geothermal features are in Yellowstone, fueled by ongoing volcanism. Lava flows and rocks from volcanic eruptions over the milleniums have shaped the terrain. The thermal activity is year around, making Yellowstone an intriguing area to view. In addition, there are herds of wildlife making this their home.*





Numerous guided tours are available from local tour operators. They know the trails - and there are many, both groomed and not - into the park's interior. They provide appropriate rental equipment for the type and ability of those in the group. If time is limited, day trips are offered to numerous areas. If time permits, stay in one of the Park's lodges and seek out several trips further into the interior. Or, for a real memorable experience, participate in an overnight camp trip. Don't worry. The tents are heated!

Old Faithful is the iconic symbol of Yellowstone. In the summer, thousands of people gravitate to it on a daily basis, but in winter, you might encounter three hundred - the limit set by the Park. One of the snow vehicles would have to transport any visitors to the site. Along the scenic route, you might

encounter Yellowstone's abundant and diverse wildlife visible from the window in the warm vehicle. Habitat preferences and seasonal cycles of movement generally determine where a particular animal or herd may be at a particular time. Early morning and evening hours are when animals tend to be feeding, and therefore they may be more easily seen. However, numbers and variety of animals seen are largely a matter of luck and coincidence. In the distance, you might even hear a pack of wolves howling to break the otherwise silent environment.

While skiing, you might also encounter an animal or several while on a trail. Stay away from them. By being sensitive to its/their needs, you will see more of an animal's natural behavior and activity. If you cause an animal to move, you are too close! It is illegal to willfully remain near or approach wildlife, including birds, within ANY distance that disturbs or displaces the animal(s). It is best to use binoculars to view wildlife because they are unpredictable! And, your safety is of utmost importance!

The thermal features of the park are of real interest to many visitors. However, because of the heat emitted by them, the surrounding snow is not always available for skiing. It is recommended to ski in other areas. With miles and miles of groomed and ungroomed trails available, it is best to take a guided tour until you become familiar with the terrain and landmarks. Then, obtain maps from a visitor's center.



*With such a vast terrain available, chances are you will have the park to yourselves, to enjoy all its beauty and serenity.*

*photos courtesy of Yellowstone National Park / Dave Hebert, photographer*



# Many Resorts Offer Nordic Ski Terrain

## Cross Country Skiing: 101

### Classic Cross Country Skiing

In classic cross country, the skier moves the skis parallel to each other with a “kick and glide” motion. It is best on groomed cross country trails (two tracks are made by grooming machines in the snow for the skier to follow), but can also be taken to mixed conditions as you get more comfortable. This is a great starting point for most beginning cross country skiers.

### Skate Skiing

Skate skiing most closely resembles inline skating. The skis are moved in a skating-type stride on groomed trails. The skis must be picked up off the ground with each stride—think what you see in the Olympics. Skating skis allows the skier to glide faster and for a longer distance for each stride than traditional cross country skiing. This also means a more intense aerobic workout than with traditional cross country skis.

### Choosing Cross Country Skis

Within these two categories of cross country skiing there are a few types of skis to choose from – *Traditional In-Track Skis*, *Off-Track Skis*, *Skating Skis* and *Backcountry Skis*. Out of those you'll have to choose “waxable” versus “waxless” skis.

**Traditional In-Track Skis:** Best for groomed trails and can also be used on some un-groomed terrain. They have minimal sidecut (narrowness of middle of ski compared to tip and tail) so the skis will stay in the tracks.

**Off-Track Skis:** Most often used to navigate un-groomed trails and terrain in parks, open fields, and on golf courses. They are wider than in-track cross country skis and provide more flotation and stability in fresh snow.

**Backcountry Skis:** Made for exploring the backcountry and experiencing variable snow conditions. They are shorter and lighter than traditional cross-country skis. Backcountry skis are also wider and feature metal edges to help accommodate the variety of un-groomed terrain with better control. Note because of these special features, they're not optimum to use for groomed, parallel tracks.

**Skating Skis:** Shorter, lighter and narrower than traditional cross-country skis. These ski properties accommodate the constant skating and lifting motion of skate cross country skiing. They generally will be about 10cm shorter than traditional skis. Most skating skis have no sidecut, which makes them more difficult to set on edge.

### Cross Country Skis - Wax or Waxless?

Some cross country skis have waxable bases, on which you put “kick wax” for grip. Other skis have waxless bases—instead of wax, a pattern in the middle third of the ski base, such as small plastic ridges or scales, provides ski grip. Waxless skis have been designed to run beautifully in just about any kind of snow. While waxing offers optimal performance, waxless skis are more convenient. As conditions change, so must your wax, so you'll need to keep up with it. Waxless skis tend to be a little bit slower, but they climb uphill very well.

### What size cross country ski is best for you?

As technology has evolved, Cross Country Ski Resorts Editor Roger Lohr suggests using the “paper test” to see if a particular pair of skis will adequately support your weight and provide optimum maneuverability both uphill and downhill. “On a hard floor surface, you should be able to slide a piece of paper under the skis when you stand evenly weighted on both of the ski centers,” Lohr says. “When all of your weight is applied to one ski at a time, the paper should be unable to slide.”

### Boots and Bindings

First, and most importantly, make certain the bindings you choose are adequate for the category of cross country skis you will be using. There are bindings specifically designed for each style. By having a professional fit your bindings and trying them with the boots at time of fitting, you'll ensure yourself a cohesive and functional setup.

Like your bindings, make sure you choose a boot within your cross country ski category. Your boots should feel just like running shoes. They should offer a snug but comfortable fit with enough room for a pair of socks and a sock liner. A liner under a winter sock will provide extra warmth and comfort and help wick away moisture. If you have problems with your feet, you can wear a custom footbed or fitted insole in your boots.

Cross-country boots are often sized in European sizes (30s-40s) and sometimes in “mondo point” sizing like downhill ski boots (length in centimeters). Your local expert will be able to convert them to US size for you, or you can consult a sizing chart in the store or online. It's important to try on the boots because sizing is crucial and varies from brand to brand. The fit should be snug and your heel should remain in place. You should be able to wiggle your toes, but as a rule contact with all parts of your foot is a good indication you have the right fit.

### Poles

Poles are essential to cross country skiing. You'll need them to aid in your forward momentum. As a rule, select a pole that fits comfortably under your armpit. Skate skiers can use a longer pole. And, for backcountry cross country, adjustable poles are great so you can adjust the length to the varying conditions.

If this is your first set of cross country gear, any reasonably light pole will be fine. Lightweight poles are great for all types of cross country skiing, and are the most popular style being produced today. They will be best appreciated with skate skiing because of all the lifting involved. The basket - the loop or plastic cup at the bottom of the pole - prevents the pole from sinking too far into the snow. Therefore, it makes sense that the deeper the snow, the larger the basket can be. On groomed snow, a smaller basket is best.

Content courtesy of **SnowSports Industries America** | SIA  
and **Snowlink.com**.

**Note:** Nordic Centers also offer ski rentals, can give excellent advice on which trails best suit ability levels and other great advice.



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## Changing Demographics: More Senior Skiers Can Be Found on the Slopes

by Leigh Gieringer

The population change for seniors - defined by being 55 or older - is increasing. The Baby Boom Generation include those born between 1946 and 1964. The oldest Boomers have reached retirement age. The youngest ones will be eligible for AARP sometime in 2014. Today, seniors represent 25.2%\* of the US population. By 2016, it is estimated that 27.2% of the population will be over 55. The number of skiers in the 50+ group has been creeping up each year, according to the National Ski Areas Association. In 2000, it was only 21%. It's not uncommon for skiers to remain on the slopes into their 70s, 80s and 90s. Many members of our own ski clubs fit the senior demographic. More seniors are in lift lines, skiing on the slopes and groups of them gather in ski lodges.



LAC members gather on Mammoth Mountain for a day of skiing.

*As a group, the Boomers were the wealthiest, most active and most physically fit generation up to that time. Advances in healthcare and resort amenities and equipment advancements have also added to the numbers of older skiers and boarders to be on the slopes each year.*

Younger people still make up the majority on the slopes. The average skier is 38.5 years old. But, "The person who skis the most in a given year is 65 and older," said Michael Berry, president of the NSAA, based in suburban Denver. And, those age 68 and older, averaged 9.5 days skiing last season. Boomers – those age 49 to 67 this year – also skied more than the national average of five times per year, according to an NSAA survey released in August.

Many skiers have worked their whole lives and have built up a very comfortable retirement. If their health is good, they have the time to venture out and enjoy experiencing their old favorite resorts and visiting new - to them - resorts. Senior discounts are not as prevalent as they used to be because their numbers have increased and many can afford the costs.

Here are some suggestions from experts to help not only an older skier, but everyone who wishes to continue to ski into their Golden Years.

- Stay in shape.
- Try to choose slopes with less traffic so you can safely ski a little slower.
- Think about afternoon sun and shadows. A west-facing slope will have better definition.
- Be cognizant of higher altitude and hydration.
- Walking in ski boots can be more challenging than skiing, so companies have developed lightweight shoes, like Pakems, that you can carry with you during the day for a quick change.
- Consider taking a gondola or chair lift down the mountain if weather sets in or you are tired.
- Know your abilities and select runs that you are comfortable on.

*Note: The article refers mainly to skiers since most seniors are not snowboarders, however, it is not the intention to slight them in any way. \*<http://www.esri.com>*

## Tips for the...

Today's skiers are healthier, more active, and more adventurous than ever before. However, even if you are in excellent shape, the physical changes that come with age present new challenges and obstacles - not to mention the hassles of modern travel, the extra security, the hidden fees, and so on and so forth. Here are some tips to make travel easier, safer, and more fun after 50.

### Don't Trust Over-the-Counter Drugs Overseas

■ Drugs obtained overseas are like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. So always carry these basic over the counter drugs when you travel.

*Antacids, anti-diarrheal, sunscreen, cough and cold medicine, hydrocortisone cream, motion sickness medicine, antihistamines, and insect repellent.*

### If You Are Going to a Sunny Locale

■ Be sure to ask your doctor if any of your prescription medicines cause increased sensitivity to the sun. Many do.

### Create a Simple Medical Information Form to Carry in Your Wallet or with your Passport

*Your form should include:*

- Your name, address, and phone number
- Friends and relatives who should be contacted in an emergency including needed contact information
- Personal physician and dentist contact information
- Current medications, both prescription and OTC
- Known drug and food allergies
- Name and number of medical insurance company (NO 1-800 numbers)

In addition, ask friends who recently traveled to your destination what they wished they had taken with them. Facebook works well for this.

### Insurance

Medicare will not cover you outside the US, Mexico or Canada. But, a lot of insurance policies such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield do. Check with your carrier prior to departure about what documentation they require for reimbursement and payment. In addition, some insurance carriers maintain offices overseas. Check with them. Last but not least, consider purchasing an insurance policy from your tour operator.



## Over 50 Traveler

Even in the United States, Medicare and most insurance plans only pay to get you to the nearest hospital. If you need to be evacuated to a more appropriate facility it can be at your own expense. This is another reason to purchase trip interruption and cancellation insurance from your tour operator.

### **Take More Prescription Medicine Than You Think You Will Need**

- An extra weeks worth is a good rule of thumb. You never know when your trip will be interrupted.
- Ask Your Doctor for Duplicate Prescriptions. This is essential in case your pills are lost or stolen.
- Put your Pills in Your Carry On. You never know when your luggage may be lost or stolen.
- Adjust your Schedule of Prescription Medicine to account for Time Zones. An easy way to do this is to carry an extra watch and keep it set to home time.

### **The Top 7 Triggers of Travelers Diarrhea**

- Custards, pastries, and other desserts
- Raw vegetables, cold platters, and crudités
- Raw eggs or unpasteurized cheeses
- Tap water and ice cubes made of tap water
- Leafy green vegetables
- Raw shellfish
- Raw meat

World's best medicine for traveler's diarrhea: **IMODIUM AD**

### **Bug Bites and Stings**

Applying meat tenderizer like Accent is one of the best ways to avoid pain and swelling. Make sure you take along an antihistamine if you are allergic to bug bites and stings. An EpiPen may also be a necessary addition to what you take with you.

### **Sunstroke Secret**

Eat bananas, tomatoes, and oranges which are rich in electrolytes to avoid dangerous dehydration.

### **Shoes**

Never wear new shoes or especially new hiking boots on vacation. Take a few weeks to break them in so you don't get blisters.

## Biggest Skiing In America Just Got Bigger

Big Sky, Montana: (October 1, 2013) - CrossHarbor Capital Partners LLC, in partnership with Boyne Resorts, completed the purchase with a subsidiary of Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. to acquire the assets of Moonlight Basin in Big Sky, Montana. This agreement follows the recent acquisition of the assets of Spanish Peaks by the same partnership and has created one of the largest and most compelling mountain resort experiences in North America.

CrossHarbor and Boyne have combined the ski operations of Moonlight Basin with that of Big Sky Resort, operating the properties seamlessly and solidifying the Big Sky brand as a premier ski destination and global brand. Big Sky Resort, Spanish Peaks, and Moonlight Basin combine to create a ski resort of more than 5,750 acres of skiable terrain, with 4,350 vertical feet, 23 chairlifts and 10 surface lifts, making it truly the "Biggest Skiing in America." Successfully unifying these operations will help promote economic stability and growth across the region and to all of Big Sky and will ensure Moonlight Basin's long-term and sustainable success.

Additional development within Big Sky, Moonlight Basin, and Spanish Peaks will now share a common vision and leadership. The future development of these special and unique properties will continue to follow the path of stewardship and environmental sensitivity. [www.bigskyresort.com/](http://www.bigskyresort.com/)

## Royal Gorge, North America's Largest Nordic Resort Expands

In its second year of Sugar Bowl Resort management, North America's largest cross-country resort will continue to expand its offerings with new fat tire snowbiking trails and the return of the Sierra Snowkite Center, California's first and only resort-based snowkiting school.

Royal Gorge's 6,000 acres of cross-country skiing and 200 kilometers of trails across six distinct track systems give cross country skiers endless skiing possibilities on an impressive trail system dotted by lakes, canyons, meadows, majestic alpine peaks and eight different warming huts.

In addition to cross country skiing and snowshoeing, fat tire snowbiking will be offered on narrow, bike-specific snow trails, giving the riders of fat-tired, winter-specific bikes the feeling of riding singletrack trails through the snow. Snowbikes will be offered for rent at Royal Gorge's Summit Station Lodge.

The Sierra Snowkite Center will return this winter with snowkiting instruction, rentals and custom snowkiting trips. The snowkite center operates out of Royal Gorge's Van Norden Meadow, where consistent wind and a variety of terrain makes for superb snowkiting. For more information on the Sierra Snowkite Center visit: <http://www.sierrasnowkite.com>

Visitors to Royal Gorge this season can also expect to see improved wayfinding signage, a new mobile phone application with improved snow reporting and trail conditions status, a new and improved website, enhanced food and beverage options at the lodge and on-trail warming huts, LED signage for weather updates and events information, renovated lodge grounds, and continued improvements to the trail grooming fleet. <http://www.royalgorge.com>

### **Heart Medicine**

If you take Nitro for your heart, make sure the pills or patches are fresh. They lose their potency over time.


### **Insulin**

Carry a prescription for your syringes. Many states and countries will not sell them to you over the counter.

Visit the State Department website for Country Specific information and Warnings:

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_4965.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4965.html)



A person is water skiing down a snowy hill, creating a large splash of water. The skier is wearing a blue helmet and a blue jacket. The water is splashing up around the skier, and the snow is visible on the hill. The background shows a crowd of spectators and a blue sky.

Pond skimming is  
fun to watch  
- especially  
if you don't like  
getting wet.

The goal is to get  
enough speed going down  
the hill so you can  
“skim” the pond  
and get to the  
other side  
without falling in.  
The faster you ski/ride,  
the better chance  
you'll have of making it  
to the other side  
of the pond.





# Pond Skimming. End of Season Fun & Frivolity!

*There are many  
opportunities to participate!*

*by Leigh Gieringer*

**A**s this is being written, ski season 2013-2014 has just barely begun. We are looking forward to several months of traversing mountain slopes, riding through deep powder, hiking through the backcountry, doing a little tree skiing, and perhaps even hopping into helicopters for unlimited first tracks snow action. After a stimulating day on the mountain, we can't wait to meet our ski/ride buddies in that special après ski destination for a brewski, hot chocolate or whatever. After all, there is so much to tell them about your wonderful and exciting day on the slopes.

Groomed slopes or powder caches are only available for a few months. And, there are so many resorts - not to mention trails - to experience. Will this be the best year - ever?

As the calendar advances, all good things must come to an end! Closing dates are typically set for their respective resorts depending on many factors. Occasionally, snow conditions may allow a resort to remain open longer than originally planned. However, there are major end of season celebrations resulting in some heavy duty "partying". Resorts plan many different activities during those closing weeks and the actual closing weekend. Check your favorite resort's website under "events" for what they have planned. And, make your reservations early, since these are very popular weekends. Skiing is usually fantastic, there are plenty of activities on the schedules, and lodging can sell out early.

One of the most exciting end of season activities is the Pond Skim. Pond Skimming is a tradition that dates back decades at numerous ski resorts. While other resorts have more recently added the activity into their end of season festivities. For anyone unfamiliar with a Pond Skim or Slush Cup Competition, the event involves brave (*I suppose other adjectives could be substituted here*) skiers and snowboarders attempting to cross a long, cold, often slush-filled pond. The objective is to make it to the other side without falling into the icy water. Ponds vary in length. Most are between 75 to 125 feet across. A few participants actually glide over the surface of the pond to the other

*photo courtesy of Sun Valley*





*The Marquis Event at Brundage Mountain's Crazy Days is the Pond Skim. Wear a crazy costume. The Annual Spring Fling is fun for the entire family. The audience is certainly enjoying it. However, there is someone who might be a bit uncomfortable in this picture!*

*photo courtesy of Brundage Mountain*

side, but the majority - as shown in the photographs - are in for a shockingly cold plunge!

Speed helps. Building up momentum from the slope that leads into the pond is a must. Waxing the bottoms could make a difference, too. Great balance also helps since leaning to one side or the other, or being too far forward or back can result in a quick dump into that chilly, cold, frigid, frosty, pond.

Skiers have been attempting this for a long time. The tradition began long before snowboards were invented, however, the larger surface area of a snowboard appears to make the journey easier, so a snowboarder might have a better chance of winning a Pond Skim/Slush Cup Competition?

As with many "End of Season" ski resort closing day events, it is not uncommon to have some fun with attire: the sillier the better. Perhaps the choice of costume will result in extra points from the scoring committee. Depending on the resort, it may be a requirement to dress up with some type of

funny costume. It adds to the fun and the audience reactions. A word to the wise may be in order here. Put a wet suit on under that costume! Winners are mostly judged on distance, the creativity of the outfit worn, and the response of the crowd. Other criteria may exist, as well. It doesn't hurt to be able to get across the pond without falling into it, either!

Most pond skimming events limit the number of participants. Thus, if this is on your bucket list, don't wait until the last moment to enter the competition. But, the fun for most is to watch the skiers and riders descend the slope at top speeds and attempt to make it across that freezing pond! Although hoping for successful journeys across what must seem to be an overwhelming stretch, the audience certainly enjoys watching participants take the plunge! That's entertainment!

Don't miss the fun. Check out the events calendar at your favorite resort for the end of season activities and any Pond Skimming events scheduled. Only a few are listed here.





*Oops! That water is chilly! Cold! Frigid! This attempt to cross the pond failed at Fernie's Fernival! But, the audience loved the effort!*  
*photo courtesy of Fernie Alpine Resort*

## Here are just a few of the Spring Pond Skimming Events planned for 2014.

### **The Canyons**

#### **Annual Spring Gröv Pond Skimming Contest Saturday, March 22, 2014**

For 10 days, The Canyons will be having huge, free concerts in the Resort Village, as well as their famous Pond Skimming Contest! The contest will be the first event of the 2014 Spring Gröv. It's one of those traditions that has been wild from the start. The Pond Skimming Contest is The Canyons' most popular party and is the true indicator that spring has arrived.

Contestants must dress in costume (the funkier the better) as they attempt to cross a 100-foot pond on skis or a snowboard. The pond and the excitement happen at mid-mountain just outside Red Pine Lodge. Participants must be 10 years of age or older to enter. Spectators are required to have a lift pass to reach the site of the Pond Skim.

### **Brundage Mountain**

#### **Pond Skim / Saturday, April 5, 2014**

Get ready to roar with laughter as you watch the brave skimmers shoot the chilly 100-foot pond! Gear up in your craziest costume to win prizes and make the most of the family-fun Poker Run, Treasure Hunt, and Kid's Pinata Party! Check the website for further details.

### **Whitefish Mountain Resort**

#### **Pond Skim / Saturday, April 5, 2014**

Take one steep, slushy slope, one 80-foot freezing pool, 60 daring kamikaze competitors in wacky costumes and a couple thousand spectators and you've got the Whitefish Pond Skim. The survivors of the first round must negotiate a jump before their skim. The last skimmer is a winner and takes home a cool \$1,000.





*If the cold water doesn't get him, the whale and alligators might! The 2014 End of Season event at Whitefish Mountain Resort will be April 5, 2014. You won't want to miss it! .photo courtesy of Whitefish Mountain Resort*



*The Beach Party, held the last day of resort operations at Whitewater Ski Resort, is a fan favorite. Prizes are awarded for the "Best Costume" and for the "Biggest Splash". photo/Whitewater Ski Resort*

## Whitewater Ski Resort

### Beach Party / Sunday, April 6, 2014

Come party at Whitewater to help them give a BIG thank you for another wonderful winter season. The Slush Cup never disappoints. This event is a fan favorite. Believe it or not, they have so many people willing to throw themselves in a slushy pool of ice cold water, that they have to put a limit on the number of participants.



*A massive tarp + a dug out hole + hundreds of gallons of water = a winter pond. Did he make it to the other side? Check their website for 2014 dates and event details.*

*photo courtesy of Telluride Ski Resort / Brett Schreckengost, pho-*





*Looks like he just might make it! At least he looks like he is enjoying the experience and proud of his accomplishment! photo courtesy of Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe*

**Mt. Rose Ski Tahoe**  
**Pond Skim Beach Party / Saturday, April 5, 2014**  
 Winters Creek Lodge

## **Fernie Alpine Resort**

### **Fernival Weekend – Coca Cola® Slope Soaker / April 17-20, 2014**

The Coca Cola® Slope Soaker is back! Strap on your skis or snowboard and see if you can make it across their Slope Soaker pond located on the lower mountain beside the Timber Chair. Participants are encouraged to dress up in creative costumes as crossing the pond is not the only goal. Extra prizes and points will be awarded for creativity/costumes, effort, crowd reaction, biggest splash etc. Plus all the registered participants are entered in for an amazing drawing of prizes from the event's sponsors! Registration will open in March and the event sold out quickly last year so make sure you pay attention to [www.uskifernie.com](http://www.uskifernie.com) to find out when registration opens. Then, secure your spot! Check website for exact date of the Pond Skim event.

## **Big Sky Resort**

### **Pond Skim 2014 / Saturday, April 19, 2014**

The only thing better than watching people skim across their home-made pond is being one of those skimmers.

## **Grand Targhee Resort**

### **2nd Annual Targhee's Sink or Skim Pond Skim Contest**

**Saturday, April 19, 2014**

Be on hand for the 2nd Annual Targhee's Sink or Skim Pond Skim Contest.

## **Sun Valley Resort**

### **Pond Skim / Mid April**

Always on the last day of Dollar Mountain's season, the Pond Skim is sponsored by the Sun Valley Ski Patrol. It celebrates the end of the season; and attracts around 200 participants, plus a few thousand spectators. Skiers and boarders ski from the cat track - down Dollar Mountain, into the pond. Everybody Welcome!

## **Vail Resort**

### **World Pond Skimming Championships / Sunday, April 20, 2014**

The World Pond Skimming Championships is just a small part of *Spring Back to Vail*: April 7-20, 2014. Check website for more details.

## **Squaw Valley**

### **The 24th Annual Cushing Crossing Pond Skim / Date: TBA**

Pond Skimming has a long history at Squaw Valley. It is filled with big spills and laughable thrills. This is one spring event that you won't want to miss. Crossing is the resort's acclaimed pond skimming event that challenges participants to cross the vast and chilly waters of Cushing Pond on skis, a snowboard or any ski or snowboard-based vessel. The event is known for colossal crashes, hilarious costumes, and ultra-creative pond skimming contraptions. All entrants must be 18 years of age or older. A life preserver and a helmet are required.

## **Sunshine Village**

### **Spring Concert Series & Slush Cup**

*Starting April 26th, every weekend until closing on May 19th*

Enjoy live music, amazing après and the perfect spring skiing at Sunshine Village. Every weekend between April 26th and May 19 will see the continuation of the popular Spring Concert Series.

### **Monday, May, 19, 2014**

Closing day on May 19th will see the 86th Annual Slush Cup close the season with one of the biggest parties in town.

*Many resorts have special end of season events, which include Pond Skim or Slush Cup Competitions. It is a fun time to enjoy your favorite resorts. Plan to join in the festivities!*

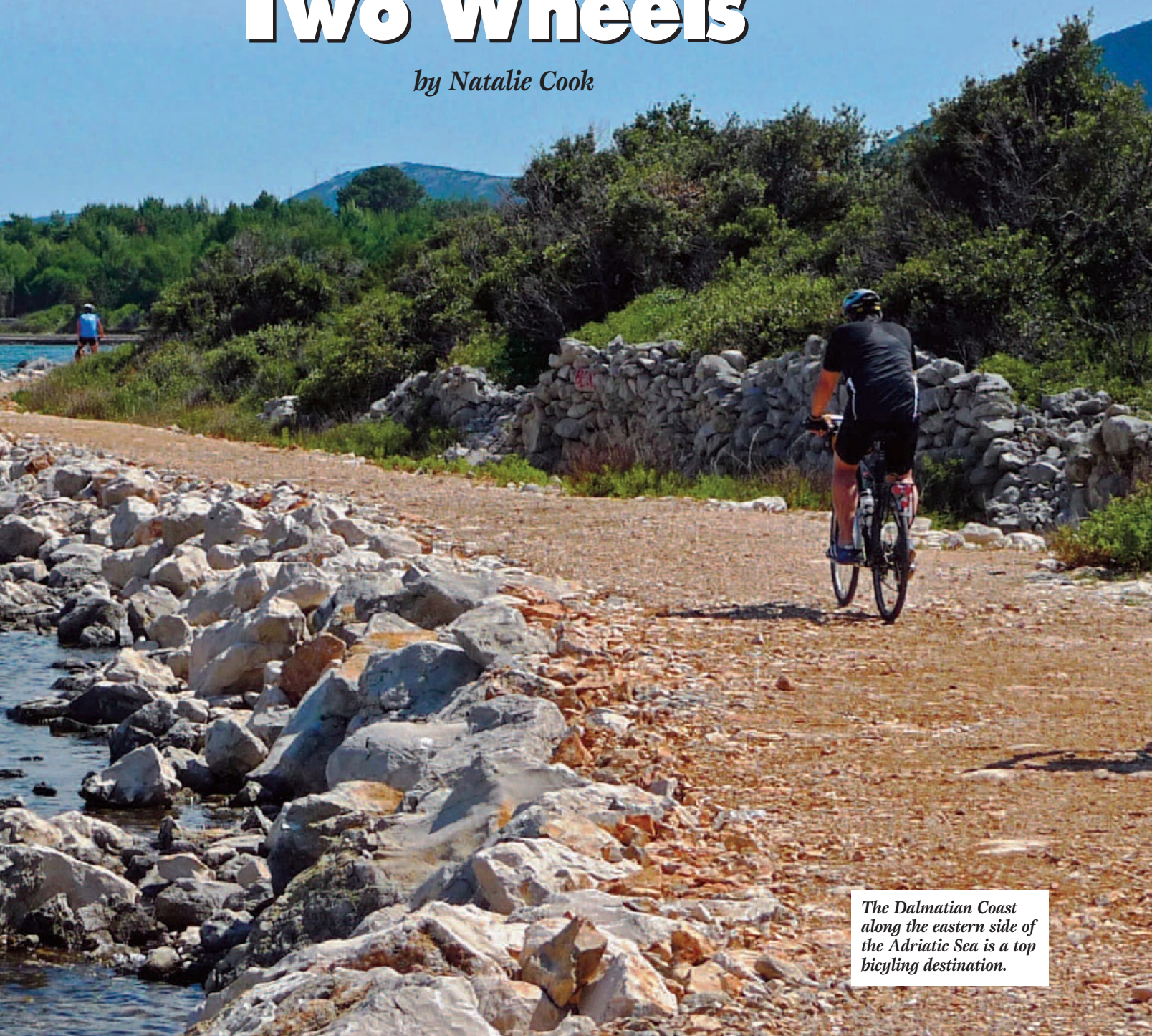






# Explore the World: on Two Wheels

*by Natalie Cook*



*The Dalmatian Coast along the eastern side of the Adriatic Sea is a top bicycling destination.*



# B

*A wide variety  
of destinations  
are available!*

bicycle tours are a good option for summer travel because they allow you to take in the sights, smells, and sounds of a destination in a way that's not possible from a bus or train. They offer the opportunity to get out into new landscapes and interact with the locals while enjoying the great outdoors during warmer months.

There's a bike tour somewhere in the world that's the perfect fit for your club or group members, and BikeToursDirect® is a central resource to find, organize, and book that tour. With nearly 500 tours in 70 countries worldwide, their tour specialists can guide your group through finding the right tour, customizing it if desired, and handling the booking and payment arrangements for the whole group. Below are a few recommendations and highlights from BikeToursDirect to help you start planning a bike tour for your group.

## ***Top Regions for Bike Tours***

BikeToursDirect represents local bicycle tour operators around the world, which means they're able to offer you a selection of bike tours in both the classic and the more exotic destinations across the globe.

Europe is an ever-popular destination for bike touring due to its famed cities, charming countryside and villages, and great cycling infrastructure. In the more popular regions within Europe, BikeToursDirect represents multiple operators, which means you have a large selection of tours in which to find the right match for your group. For example, they can plan and coordinate more than 10 tours in Provence, 15 in Tuscany, and 13 along Austria's Danube Bike Path. Beyond these classic European regions, Croatia, Ireland, Hungary, and Scotland are all top cycling destinations for a flavor of the Old World.

If you're looking for a more unique destination, consider Central America or Asia for your club's summer travel. Mexico and Costa Rica are lovely shoulder season destinations closer to home, while Thailand and Vietnam bicycle tours will allow you to experience the Far East in a different way.

## ***Bike and Boat Tours***

Many clubs enjoy the flexibility of bike and boat tours. On this type of tour, you can cycle during the day while your "floating hotel" makes its way to your next meeting point, perhaps joining you for lunch onboard during the day, and picking you up at the end of your day's exploration.

These tours are particularly well suited for groups with mixed ability (or interest!) levels -- if you have travelers who don't want to ride a full day, they can relax on the boat in the afternoon after riding in the morning, or spend an entire day onboard enjoying the view while cruising. Bike and boat tours can also accommodate non-riders, who can remain onboard or get off the boat to explore and take public transportation to the next meeting point. Another bonus? You only have to unpack once!

The boats used for these tours range from barges floating through the canals of Holland and Belgium to motor yachts following the coasts of Italy, Croatia, the Greek Isles, and more.







photos provided by BikeToursDirect

*Top destinations for European bike adventures include following the paths along the Danube in Austria (top) and journeys through Tuscany (left). With numerous different tours offered, there is one to fit just about any group. Some tours include bike and boat options so if a participant wishes to enjoy a day just floating along the river, they can relax. While others in the group may want to go sight seeing somewhere along the route. Many tours can be customized to provide a very memorable experience for all - along paved roads, gravel paths, through towns and along river banks. Some are guided. Others are self directed.*





*From the Windmills in Greece to the Windmills in Holland, there are plenty of roads to travel. Take your choice of cycling along sandy beaches, rocky coast lines, through flowering tulip fields, or investigate historic towns. You plan your agenda!*

▶ Your club or group can charter a boat to have it all to yourselves, or you can join a larger boat that will have other guests (and meet new friends!).

Some bike and boat tours (as well as land-based tours) offer electric bikes for rent. These e-bikes use a battery-powered motor to provide a permanent tailwind while you pedal, and they're a great equalizer for groups of mixed ability levels to share the same pace comfortably.

### ***Trip Planning Made Easy***

The BikeToursDirect staff can assist with the entire planning and booking process, simplifying the organization and administration for your club's trip leader. The first step will be to talk with you to learn as much as possible about what would appeal to your members, and they'll come back with a few recommendations. Once you've selected a tour, they can review what kinds of customizations may be available for that program (like adding extra nights, revising daily distances, or including special activities).

BikeToursDirect will then create a custom tour page just for your club's tour, which can be distributed to your membership to promote the tour. When club members are ready, they can book and pay directly with BikeToursDirect, rather than the trip leader having to gather deposits, balances, and personal travel information (unless they want to!).

More details are available for clubs and groups at:  
***[www.biketours.com/club-programs](http://www.biketours.com/club-programs)***



*Other popular destinations are riding through the Loire Valley with its majestic chateaus (top) and traveling through Austria (lower).*





*Bicycling along the scenic Dalmatian Coast of the Adriatic Sea is one of the most popular choices. Riding along the coast of Croatia can also be combined with an island hopping boat tour to explore several islands along the way. Ocean vistas combined with quaint villages make this tour very special.*



*Bike and Boat Tours are especially popular for mixed ability groups or if any participant wishes to relax and view the sites from the river:*

**Information for U.S. citizens:** Get your passport in order well in advance of your trip – processing times are typically 4-6 weeks (with expedited service still 2-3 weeks). Fees are currently \$135-165 for a new passport, and \$25 less for renewals. Get started at the U.S. State Department website. Visas are not required for short visits to most countries, but a few countries require visas even for bike tourists! The State Department has a comprehensive listing of entry requirements for every country.

## Bike Tours for Ski Clubs & Other Groups: Top Choices

Here are just a few tours that are great for groups due to client feedback, ease of customization, and popular destinations.

- Danube Bike Path 7-Night Tour
- Medieval Villages of Catalonia
- Amsterdam to Bruges by Bike and Boat
- Dalmatia from Dubrovnik Bike/E-bike and Boat Tour
- Tuscany's Crown Jewels
- Venice to Trieste and Istria
- Mosel Bike Path
- Tastes and Trails of Scotland
- Avenue Verte: Paris to London

*photos provided by BikeToursDirect*



# How Well Do You Know Your Resorts?

by Leigh Gieringer

Some resorts have recognizable landscape features within the resorts, or nearby!



**1. Mammoth Mountain, California**



**2. Caviahue Ski Resort, Argentina**



**3. Mauna Kea, Hawaii offers some of the world's highest skiing at 13,796'. Add the undersea base of -19,000' and it is the world's highest mountain. It covers approximately 100 square miles of wilderness terrain. photos by Jimmy Petterson**

## **1. Mammoth Mountain,**

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, is the highest ski resort in California. Mammoth is notable for the unusually large amount of snowfall it receives – about 400" annually— due to its location in a low gap in the Sierra Crest.

In the background of picture #1 is a rock formation known as the Minarets. The Minarets are unique and one of the most striking mountain features in all of the Sierra Nevada. This large collection of pinnacles rises sharply from its surroundings, creating an incredibly serrated skyline in the heart of the Ansel Adams Wilderness Area. There is a fine view of the Minarets from the summit of Mammoth Mountain, as well as from this chairlift. The Minarets are part of the Ritter Range, the remnants of an ancient volcanic massive that predates most of the Sierra granite.

## **2. Caviahue Ski Resort at the foot of the active Copahue Volcano, Argentina:**

A relatively small ski area, Caviahue Ski Resort is located in a remote area of Argentina, thus, it is not known to most international skiers or boarders. The advantage is that the prices (once in the country) are inexpensive and the slopes are uncrowded. The resort trails are protected by Araucaria Trees (Monkey Puzzle Trees - pictured) which are indigenous only to Argentina or Chile. The terrain is relatively equally divided 30%/40%/30% for trail difficulty, but offers off-piste skiing and backcountry touring with the ascent to the crater of the volcano most popular. Steam from the volcano is actively released, but the geothermal activity also provides a hot springs for the perfect way to end a day on the slopes.





**4. Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada** photo courtesy of SkiBig3



**5. St. Moritz, Switzerland** Jimmy Petterson

### 3. Mauna Kea, Hawaii:

Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano, is one of the highest island mountains in the world. It is located on the Big Island of Hawaii along with its slightly smaller neighboring mountain, Mauna Loa (13,796 ft.). If Mauna Kea's height is measured from its base (19,000 feet below sea level), it surpasses even Mount Everest at 29,029', and is the world's highest mountain (31,796 ft.). Although there is no historical record of Mauna Kea's eruption, geologic evidence suggests that the volcano last erupted around 1650. Eruptions are present in traditional Hawaiian folklore. According to legend, Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa were the domains of two opposing goddesses, Poliahu and Pele, respectively. Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions were produced from their violent rivalry.

Although there is about 100 miles of skiable terrain when it is covered in snow, it is not a resort. There are no lifts. There is no grooming. But, there is a road where a 4-wheel drive vehicle can navigate to the summit to drop off those wishing to descend the slopes on their boards.

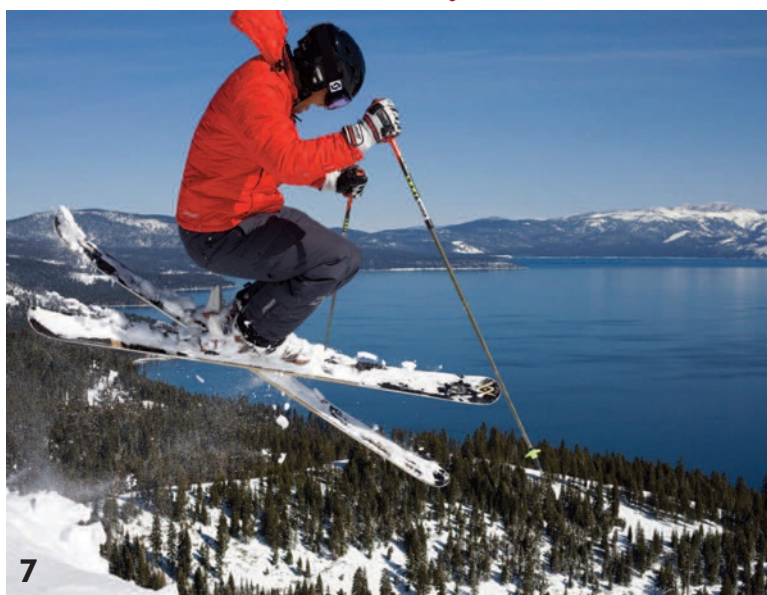
Picture #3 should be recognizable due to the white mountain surrounded by the lower elevations with the dormant volcanic peaks in the background.

### 4. Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada:

Lake Louise Ski Resort is one of three major ski resorts located in the Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada. Between them, the areas offer almost 8,000 skiable terrain on one tri-area lift ticket. The other two are Mt. Norquay and Sunshine Village. The varied terrain is suitable to all ability levels - from gentle groomed slopes to extreme in-bound challenges for experts.

Lake Louise Ski Resort is the largest of the three at 4,200 acres. From the heights of the resort one can view stunning mountain vistas, glaciers and forests, plus beautiful Lake Louise nestled at the foot of several giant mountains seen in picture #4. During winter months, its icy surface offers many activities.

*Some resorts have beautiful water views!*



**7. Homewood, Lake Tahoe, California** photo /Homewood Ski Resort

**9. Ilulissat, Greenland** photo by Jimmy Petterson





**6. Mt. Bachelor Ski Area, Oregon** *photo courtesy of Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort*

**8. Villarrica-Pucón Ski Resort, Chile** *photo courtesy of Pucón Ski Center*

### 5. St. Moritz, Switzerland:

St. Moritz is one of the world's most famous holiday resorts. The Corvatsch ski area is about a 15 kilometer drive from St. Moritz, one of the four separate mountains that make up the ski terrain of St. Moritz. There is a long run, however, from the Corvatsch, which takes skiers directly back to St. Moritz, finishing close to the famous 5-star Kempinski Grand Hotel des Bains. In photo #5, Rupert Scheiner enjoys a bit of powder on that descent, as the iced-over Lake Sils and Lake Silvaplana provide a typical Swiss background to the scene.

### 6. Mt. Bachelor, Oregon:

Mt. Bachelor Ski Area is located 22 miles west of Bend, Oregon in the central part of the state. It is a stratovolcano built on top of a volcanic shield in the Central Cascade Range. The conical shape was formed by many layers of hardened lava, pumice and ash. A stratovolcano is distinguished by a steep, somewhat triangular, profile built up by periodic explosive eruptions, throughout the

ages. The lava hardened quickly to form the conical shape.

Mt. Bachelor is known for the highest and largest lift accessible acreage in Oregon, and for its light, dry snow, diverse terrain and long ski seasons. Snowsport enthusiasts can ski or ride 360 degrees off the summit, hike the cinder cone or ski through the trees to find some great powder caches.

### 7. Homewood Mountain Resort, California:

Homewood Mountain Resort is one of the oldest ski resorts in the Lake Tahoe area dating back to 1961. It is built on the shores of the lake with fabulous views from just about every one of its 60 runs. They are now in the process of a major renovation, but in the meantime, enjoy those exceptional views. They have an average of 400 inches of snowfall annually, are mostly protected from the wind by Ellis Peak and bathe in sunshine much of the year.

### 8. Villarrica-Pucón Ski Resort, Chile:

Ski Pucón is a tiny resort located 20 minutes from Pucón on Lake Villarrica in the southern part of Chile. This is a unique resort with natural terrain on the slope of the smoking Villarrica Volcano. The conical volcano's terrain structure, created by past lava flows, offers natural steeps, jumps and halfpipes for advanced and intermediate skiers and riders, plus sweeping views of the gorgeous blue lake below. Hiking to summit at 9,317 to peer into the crater, is a popular venture. It is one of the world's most active volcanos.

### 8. Ilulissat, Greenland:

Photo #9 - previous page - is not taken at a ski resort, but in Greenland, you don't always need a resort to ski. There is usually a lot of snow almost everywhere during Greenland's winter. In fact, this photo was not even taken during the winter, but was actually shot during the month of May. The location is close to the village of Ilulissat, a village on the western seaboard about 200 kilometers north of the Arctic Circle. Ilulissat is most famous for its spectacular icefjord. This river of ice deposits approximately 20 billion tons of icebergs into the sea each year, and it is believed to have been the location that produced the famous chunk of ice that sank the mighty Titanic.

*The four photos of the ski town main streets on the next page are probably the most recognizable pictures in this quiz. After a day of snowriding, most everyone wants to spend après ski or evenings experiencing the flavor of the community.*



*Some resorts have recognizable main streets!*



10



11



12



13

### 10. Banff, Alberta:

The town of Banff is located within the Banff National Park in the Canadian Rockies. Its origins date back to the 1880s after the transcontinental railway was built through the Bow Valley. In 1883, several railway employees found some natural hot springs on Sulphur Mountain. A couple of years later, the area was promoted as an international resort featuring the hot springs. The community was named after the president of the Canadian Pacific Railway's birthplace - Banffshire, Scotland. The railway built several grand hotels along the rail route. Among them was the famous Banff Hotel. The historic town of Banff followed. Banff Avenue seems to frame Cascade Mountain. Skiing was introduced to the Banff and Lake Louise area in 1909 by Swiss and Austrian mountain guides. *photo/SkiBig3/Paul Zizka*

### 11. Fernie, British Columbia:

Fernie is named after the nineteenth-century prospector, William Fernie, who established the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company in 1897. The following year, the Canadian Pacific Railway arrived establishing a townsite north of the original encampment. A disastrous fire leveled the downtown in 1904. The town was rebuilt using "fireproof" materials, however, four years later, a larger fire melted the bricks and mortar. The city was destroyed in a single afternoon. For a second time, a new Victorian styled city arose from the ashes. Most of these cherished historic main street buildings remain today. Fernie Alpine Resort, known for its impressive annual snowfall and wonderful powder skiing, is located nearby. *photo/Resorts of the Canadian Rockies/ Henry Georgi*

### 12. Breckenridge, Colorado:

Prospectors first entered this area of the current Summit County, during the Pikes Peak Gold Rush of 1859 when it was part of the Utah Territory. Gold was discovered east of Breckenridge. The town was founded to serve the miners. Historic Breckenridge currently contains the greatest concentration of historic buildings ranging from those constructed in settlement days to the late Victorian Era. Today, Breck's Historic District is one of the largest in Colorado preserving its strong heritage. Skiing came to the area in 1961 when the Peak 8 Ski Area opened with one double chair, an unloading station midway up the slope and a short learning T-bar. Since then, there have been numerous owners, which have built up the Breckenridge Ski Resort into a World Class resort. This historic town has been a large part of its popularity. *photo/Breckenridge Ski Resort/Carl Scofield*

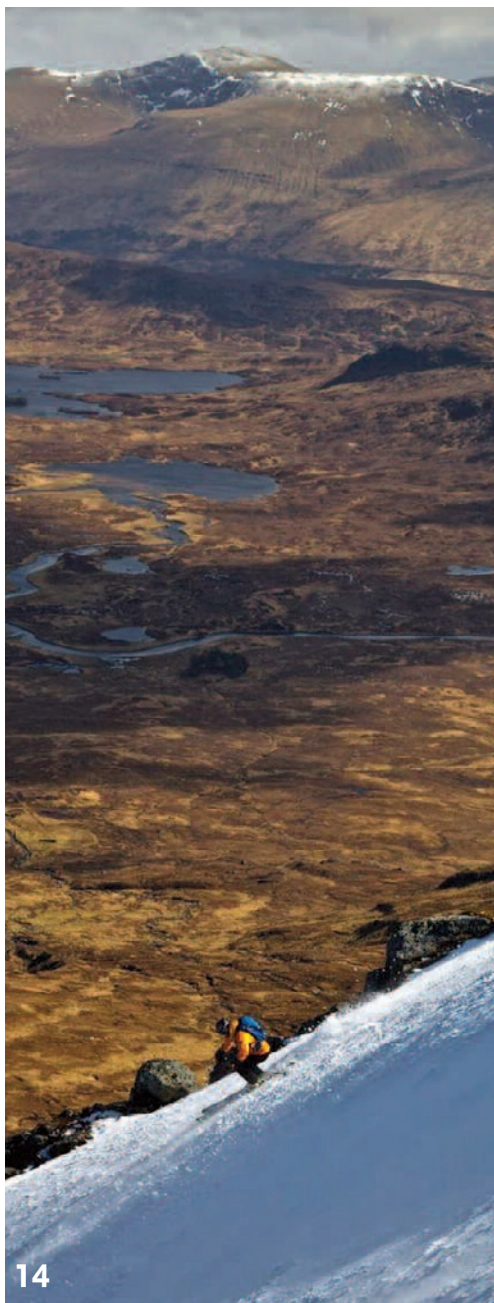
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How  
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14

**14. Glencoe, Scotland** photo by Jimmy Petterson

► **13. Telluride, Colorado:**

► Telluride also has a mining heritage dating back to the nineteenth-century. A silver mining camp was built on the site. Gold was found in the surrounding mountains in 1875. Three years later, the town of Columbia began settlement. In 1887, it was renamed Telluride after a mineral that was never found in the area, although area mines did provide ample zinc, lead, copper, silver and other gold ores.

A significant part of Telluride is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The main street is highly recognizable for those who have skied there or have seen pictures of the town. Again, the historic aspect has contributed to the success of the resort.

photo/Telluride Ski Resort



15

**15. Chamonix, France**

Skiers are walking the wall of the Aiguille du Midi Chamonix/Mt. Blanc (3842 meters or 11,424 feet) at the top of the Aiguille du Midi Cable Car: photo by George Stewart

*Some resorts have created interesting structures.  
Some offer dramatic chutes, couloirs or rocky buttes.*



16



17





#### **14. Glencoe, Scotland:**

Glencoe is one of five ski resorts in Scotland, and it is the oldest of the group. Situated in the western part of the country, Glencoe has something suitable for all abilities of skiers and boarders, but it is renowned for having the steepest run in Scotland. In this photo, Craig Cameron is carving up the corn snow on a descent called Flypaper. Some people might scoff at the thought of skiing in a country where the highest peak is only 1344 meters above the sea, but don't be fooled by such statistics. When the snow is right, Scotland's mountains can offer skiers a challenge and a thrill that will match the exhilaration that one can find in the Alps or the Rockies, and the rolling moors dotted with lakes and streams that lay below Flypaper provide a stunning background to a wonderful winter descent.

#### **15. Chamonix/Mt. Blanc, France:**

The Aiguille du Midi cable car leaves from the center of Chamonix. It is a two-staged journey. The first brings visitors to the Plan de l'Aiguille (2300m). The second traverses Les Pelerins glacier before rising up the North Face of the Aiguille du Midi.

The top station of the Aiguille du Midi has several terraces where visitors can take in the spectacular views of the Swiss, French and Italian Alps. On a clear day it is possible to see the Matterhorn, Mont Rosa and the Grand Combin. An elevator inside the rock rises the final 42m to the top terrace at 3842m. This is the closest you can get to Mont Blanc without climbing.

#### **16. Red Mountain, British Columbia, Canada:**

Over the summer, Red Mountain has expanded the resort by almost 1,000 additional acres bringing their total skiable terrain to 2,787. Grey Mountain - contiguous to Red and Granite Mountains will have its own chair ascending to the summit, with 360 degrees of skiing off the top. The expansion will add 22 new runs making it one of North America's top 20 resorts in terms of size. Red Mountain is one of the oldest ski resorts in North America as well, dating back to the early 1900s. It averages around 300 inches of light, dry powder. And, it offers a wide variety of challenging expert terrain and plenty for intermediates, too! The picture was taken on top of Mt. Roberts, overlooking the Red Mountain Resort, Rossland BC, Canada.

#### **17. Kicking Horse, British Columbia, Canada:**

Formally known as Whitetooth Ski Area, a small local ski area near Golden, British Columbia, it was bought out and expanded in 1999 and given a new name. There are four large bowls - Crystal Bowl, Bowl Over, Feuz Bowl and Super Bowl which converge into a single area about half way down the mountain providing 2,800 + acres of in-bound skiable terrain. There is also plenty of exceptional backcountry areas accessed by foot along Terminator Ridge on the south side and Rudi's Bowl to the north. If hiking is not desired, try the Heli-skiing. The mountain summits receive about 300 inches of snow.



**16. Red Mountain, British Columbia** photo/Red Mountain Resort/Dave Heath

**17. Kicking Horse, British Columbia** photo/Resorts of the Canadian Rockies

**18. Val Di Mezdi, Italy** photo by Jimmy Petterson

**19. Sun Valley, Idaho** photo courtesy of Sun Valley Resort





***Powder, powder everywhere? Some resorts are known for their abundant snowfall, solitude, exquisite winter beauty, glade skiing and powder caches. The top picture to the left was taken in June, 2013. And, it is not in the Southern Hemisphere!***

#### **18. Val Di Mezdi, Italy:**

The famous Val Di Mezdi (Midday Valley) descent is named because only around noon does the sun manage to send a few rays of light between the vertical walls on either side. The tour begins with a cable car ride above the cliffs of the famous Sella Group followed by a flat 45-minute walk to the Rifugio Boe. There, one enters the steep throat of the valley. Officially, this route is off-piste, but it is very well known. While it is not really extreme, the steepness combined with the generally firm snow and a relatively narrow couloir makes the run rather intimidating. A fall near the top can often lead to a rather long slide.

#### **19. Sun Valley, Idaho:**

Sun Valley is on every snowsport enthusiasts bucket list to experience. One reason is that it was the first destination ski resort in the United States. The site was selected after an exhaustive search financed by Averell Harriman - the then chairman of the Union Pacific Railroad - to locate an ideal location. The resort opened in 1937. Mr. Harriman was an avid skier in the European Alps and desired to bring the sport to America. Another reason was to increase the ridership on his railroad. It was a very successful launch and Sun Valley has continued to be a World Class resort, not only offering tremendous ski/ride opportunities, but also a variety of après ski experiences such as the horse drawn sleighrides.

#### **20. Whistler, British Columbia, Canada:**

Can you believe Whistler Blackcomb still has this much snow in June? And, they were also able to open the 2013-2014 Ski Season 13 days early due to the heavy snow storms they have been receiving. By many standards, Whistler Blackcomb is the largest ski resort in North America. It also has the greatest uphill lift capacity making it one of the most frequented ski resorts with an average of over 2 million guests annually. Whistler Village - at the foot of the mountains is patterned after a quaint Tyrolean Village, which is self contained and very popular with visitors to the area. With over 400 inches of snow a year, one can see why the snow can pile up as shown in the picture!

#### **21. Steamboat, Colorado:**

Steamboat Ski Area is a major ski area in northwestern Colorado. Within its almost 3,000 acres, there are 165 named trails. The resort is known for its plentiful Champagne Powder®, western hospitality centered around an historic town, programs focused on family, and, of course its fabulous glade skiing. The solitude of skiing through the trees, coupled with abundant powder, and you can understand why Ski Town USA is so highly rated for its excellent tree skiing. As a change of pace, get out some Nordic skis, go to the tubing park, dash through the snow on a two horse open sleigh, ride horses, or see the mountains from a Hot Air Balloon. When the legs get tired, mosey down to the famed Strawberry Park Natural Outdoor Hot Springs. Or, enjoy a day at the Steamboat Grand Spa. There is fun for all!





22

**22. Whitefish, Montana** photo/Whitefish Mountain Resort

## **22. Whitefish Mountain Resort, Montana:**

Formerly known as The Big Mountain, Whitefish Mountain Resort is located in northwest Montana and easily accessible by auto, train (Amtrak) or air. With the addition of several new trails over the summer, it brings the number of marked trails to 102. The longest cruiser - Hellfire - is 3.3 miles. The terrain expands over 3,000 acres. Snow ghosts, seen in the picture to the left, are a common occurrence in the winter months. These “creatures” appear after a massive dump of wet snow covers the trees. But, when the sun comes out, they make a gorgeous sight! There is a variety of slope-side lodging, but Whitefish Mountain Resort is a mere eight miles from the beautiful city of Whitefish where evening activities abound. A free shuttle is available between the town and the ski mountain. The ambiance is more subdued than some other resorts, and it has terrain to match everyone’s desires, but the Whitefish Mountain Resort provides an excellent value, too!

## **23. Deer Valley, Utah:**

Located in the Wasatch Range, Deer Valley lies approximately 36 miles east of Salt Lake City. It is one of Park City’s major ski resorts. The resort is consistently ranked as one of North America’s top resorts, and is known for its upscale amenities. Some of them include free ski valets, parking lot shuttles for its guests, as well as fine dining opportunities and upscale boutiques in the main lodge, and more. The resort has a higher lift capacity than surrounding resorts to reduce lift lines and ticket sales are limited for daily use so the slopes are uncrowded. The resort strives to provide a thoroughly enjoyable ski experience which is one of the reasons why Deer Valley is so highly rated by those who have skied there. And, it has a high rate of returning guests. As shown in the picture, skiers pass million dollar homes on their journey down the slopes. Historic Park City - an old silver mining town - is nearby, filled with a wide variety of excellent restaurants, lively bars and a multitude of après ski activities.

## **How well did you do?**

There is a wide variety of ski areas and resorts featured on the last several pages. Perhaps some were recognized, but more importantly, it is hoped that readers learned a little something about each one featured. Most ski areas do have a distinct personality. Some that appeal to one person may not be attractive to another. On the other hand, once a little more is learned about a particular resort, it might encourage them to seek it out to experience it.

Many of the pictures were taken by Jimmy Petterson. Some of the descriptive text was penned by him as he has had first hand knowledge of the more obscure resorts. He has made it his life’s work to ski as many resorts as he possibly can, and write about them so others can also appreciate them.

Each picture has been numbered. Write the name of the resort next to the corresponding number. Please indicate how many you identified before looking at the answers appearing in this insert. Send the list to:

**Resort Identification Quiz**

***Far West Skier’s Guide***

**3115 South Price Road**

**Chandler, AZ 85248**

Entries must be received prior to April 1, 2014. Include your name and contact information - phone or e-mail address. All correct entries received will be placed in a drawing at the 2014 FWSA Annual Convention being held in Bend, Oregon in June, 2014. The winning entry will receive a prize. The winner does not have to be present to win. ▲▲



23

**23. Deer Valley, Utah** photo by Jimmy Petterson





## Arizona Ski Council by Arleigh Meiners, President

### *The Arizona Ski Council & Clubs are very Active!!!*

The Arizona Ski Council participated in the 81st Annual Far West Ski Association Convention held at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada. Wanda Himler represented the Arizona Ski Council as their Woman of The Year. Jim Nachbar from the Scottsdale Ski Club was elected to the FWSA Board of Directors as Vice-President of Communications. ASC is very proud of both these outstanding volunteers. (See picture on page 12.)

The Arizona Ski Council will kick off their annual ski season with a picnic at Vista Del Camino Park in Scottsdale, Arizona. There will be 85 to 100 people attending this event representing all the member clubs.

It was a very hot summer here in Arizona this year, but that does not slow down the activities of the Arizona Ski Council. We just sort of move out of the desert! In addition to the happy hours, parties and dinners, the seven different clubs had a lot of activities planned to beat the heat throughout the southwest!

*Members of the Phoenix Ski Club prepares to leave for a week long White Water camp trip through the Grand Canyon. The scenery and adventure are truly memorable! photo provided by Arleigh Meiners*

ASC has elected their new officers for 2013-2014. They are as follows: President, Arleigh Meiners; Vice-President, Wanda Himler; Secretary, Jim Nachbar; Treasurer, Carla Kramer; and Race Coordinator, Bill Behnke.

**Arizona Outdoor Travel Club, (AOTC)** had many hikes planned throughout Arizona for the summer months. They had exercise hikes every Tuesday in the Phoenix Mountain Preserve and almost every week during the summer months to the north cool pines of Arizona in Flagstaff and the White Mountains. These hikes are for every level of hiker. Some are easy and some are very strenuous. Go to [www.azotc.com](http://www.azotc.com) for more information on these and other exciting trips.

**Sailing Adventure Club (SAC)** is the newest member of the Arizona Ski Council. The Sailing Adventure Club is a social club based in Phoenix, Arizona with activities ranging from local sailing and non-sailing events, to out of country sailing adventures. Sailing Adventures believes in reciprocity

and extends it to all clubs in the Arizona Council. The club is sailing centric, which means bareboat charters trips, such as the trip to the British Virgin Islands in 2011.

The club is planning a trip in 2014 to Italy or Sicily followed by a trip to Tahiti in 2015. Other areas of interest include the Rhone or Danube Rivers. With 80% of the world covered with water, Sailing Adventures has a lot of places to explore. Singles, couples and families are welcome to join this club. Check out their website at [www.sailingadventure-club.org](http://www.sailingadventure-club.org).

**Boeing Employee Adventure Club** is a corporate club, with a hiking schedule, as well as biking, camping, kayaking, pool parties and family events around town. Employees may contact [www.boeing.com](http://www.boeing.com) for more information about recreation activities that are planned!

**Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC)**, celebrated their 65th Anniversary by entering a float in the Annual horse drawn Parada Del Sol Parade. PSC received an award for

the most Comical entry! The Phoenix Ski Club also held a 65th Anniversary banquet at Pinnacle Peak Patio, which was a huge success. About 200 former and present members attended. Attending the banquet were 22 Past Presidents, one being a president from 1954. Old pictures and newsletters were on display for everyone to view. A melodrama called "Sagebrush Sidekick" was another activity that was part of the 65th Anniversary celebration.

PSC is getting ready for a fantastic 2013-2014 ski season. Seven ski trips are being planned and the ski trip over New Year's is to Ogden, Utah with skiing at Snowbasin and Powder Mountain. Others include Steamboat, Wolf Creek, Telluride and Big White in Canada. For more details about the Phoenix Ski Club see [www.phxski.org](http://www.phxski.org).

**Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC)** is an adult ski and social club. SS&SC have happy hours every Friday evening. The club started their summer activities with a Wine and Cheese party and a Luau. A Pub Crawl on the famous Whiskey Row in Prescott is



a popular annual getaway weekend in August. Mountain camp outs, tubing, kayaking, baseball games, casino night and many more events were some other highlights for this summer.

SS&SC ski trips for 2013-2014 are in the planning stage. Refer to their website for their activities, [www.scottsdale-skiclub.com](http://www.scottsdale-skiclub.com).

The 2013-2014 ski schedules for the member clubs are posted on each club's individual website. To keep track of these and other Arizona Ski Council events, please check our website.

### Arizona Ski Council

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Member Clubs & Contact Information

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#### ARIZONA OUTDOOR TRAVEL CLUB

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#### SCOTTSDALE SEA AND SKI CLUB

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#### SAILING ADVENTURE CLUB

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#### BOEING ADVENTURE CLUB

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Representative: Janice Roedel

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#### EAST VALLEY SKI CLUB

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#### PARTY TIME SPORTS

President: Gary Gertz

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## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

by Dennis Heffley, President

The Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) is a very active part of the Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation. Our focus is Having Fun! One might ask, "Who should join a BAC club?" A very simple answer is... YOU!

The BAC has 30 active member clubs based in the greater San Francisco Bay area which extends as far north as the Napa Valley, south to Monterey/Carmel and east to Modesto. We feature two separate leagues within the BAC. Our Open League has 25 clubs, and welcomes individuals, couples, families and their children. Our Singles League is made up of five clubs with their membership being over 21 years of age. They must be single to initially join one of their clubs.

There is also the social aspect in all of our BAC clubs! Non skiers and non-snowboarders find their way to our member clubs for activities such as dancing, hiking, camping, bike riding, tennis, golf, adventure travel and more! In fact, we have members who have been on all seven continents of the world. Yes, even Antarctica!

Being so close to Lake Tahoe, you'll find our members on the slopes almost any day during the winter! The variety of trips available through the BAC to go skiing, snowboarding, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, including non-skiing activities, can be found within our various club trips, council trips and FWSA trips. The locations include many Tahoe venues, domestic locations, adventures to Europe and just about all points on a compass.

Another wonderful part of the BAC clubs and our members is how we volunteer our time and energy through community outreach and fund raising. Our main benefactor is Disabled Sports USA Far West Division (DSUSA). Over the years, we have raised over



**BAC's 8th Annual Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show was held to benefit Disabled Sports USA Far West Division and supported by VAIL Resorts. They had 146 people at the game which included Ashley Rojas, Regional Sales from VAIL Resorts.** photo by Lionel Digal of Snowchasers Ski Club

\$400,000.00 for their program! On August 2, 2013, we held our 8th Annual BAC/DSUSA Oakland A's Baseball Game, Tailgate BBQ and Fireworks event. Members of the BAC, their friends and family had a great night. Thank you to the Oakland A's Baseball and Vail Resorts for supporting this event!

The history of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council is just as amazing as what is taking place today. In mid 1941, the Bay Area Ski Federation was organized "For the welfare of Bay Area Skiers" and voted to join the Far West Ski Association as the Bay Area Council (BAC) Ski Clubs in 1961. To embrace all snow sports activities, the current name of the BAC is "Bay Area Snow Sports Council". During all four seasons, our BAC clubs are very active!

The Singles League portion of the BAC holds an Annual Snow Ball in November to celebrate the coming winter sports season. This year, we are having our 39th Anniversary of this gala event! The evening consists of a wonderful black tie optional dinner/dance along with a silent auction and an amazing raffle. Our auction and raffle would not be possible without the tremendous support that we receive from the ski industry and resorts!

We, in the leadership of the BAC, are very lucky to have our clubs and their members associated with us along with having the Lake Tahoe area in our back-

yard. Our members are amazing and the amount of history and diversity of places to ski and snowboard is a true gift.

Our Recreational Race Schedules for 2013-2014 feature Alpine Meadows, NorthStar at California, Homewood and Squaw Valley! Recreational Racing means we cater to all abilities from experts to those who are beginners. Then, there are the Far West Championships at Mammoth Mountain Resort! Become one of our "racers", and come out to have a great time. Even if you don't race, please join us on the slopes during any of our on mountain events. Cow bells are encouraged!

In our continued efforts to share information with our BAC members, we have a monthly BAC General Meeting where we welcome and look forward to having guest speakers who talk about their resorts, products and/or travel opportunities. This year, we are also putting a great deal of energy into sharing information on how to improve our various clubs through information and interactive conversations!

If you have any questions or need more information about the BAC, please contact me at [bac.president@skibac.org](mailto:bac.president@skibac.org) or look at our website at [www.skibac.org](http://www.skibac.org).

To our members, clubs and those who donate and support our efforts. I always like to say...

*"Thank You For Being The One Who Makes The Difference!"*

BAY AREA SNOW SPORTS COUNCIL





*The BAC race team gathers during the Aspen/Snowmass Ski Week.  
photo by Ken Calkins*



*The Lake Tahoe area is an especially popular destination for BAC and Sierra Council clubs since they are relatively nearby for most of them. The area offers numerous World-Class resorts with thousands of acres devoted to snowsports. Over \$100,000,000 has been designated into ongoing capital improvements to enhance their guest's experiences and to assist in the region's bids for the 2015 Winter X Games and the 2026 Winter Olympics. photo/VisitRenoTahoe.com*

## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

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## Bay Area Snow Sport Council Ski and Social Clubs

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[www.sunburstskiclub.org](http://www.sunburstskiclub.org)

Sue Kane

650-921-7223

[matissesue@yahoo.com](mailto:matissesue@yahoo.com)

#### SUNDANCER SKI CLUB

[www.sundancerskiclub.com](http://www.sundancerskiclub.com)

Dan Elliot, Jr.

408-559-7589

[danjr27@comcast.net](mailto:danjr27@comcast.net)

#### THE OLYMPIC CLUB

Private - Member Sponsored

Steve Bard

[sbard@bardfamily.org](mailto:sbard@bardfamily.org)

#### TOP OF THE HILL GANG

[www.ggtothg.org](http://www.ggtothg.org)

Norman Glickman

530-906-4328

[normanggtothg@yahoo.com](mailto:normanggtothg@yahoo.com)



## Year Around Activities Abound



*From barbecues to monthly Dine-Arounds at different restaurants, members get together on a regular basis, on and off the slopes.*

*photos provided by Fran Long*

**LEFT:** Experience the snow in a different way! Members took some time off from skiing and boarding to try the Mt. Bachelor's 800' ride in the Snowblast Tubing Park. **ABOVE:** SLO Skiers are active bikers. With the gorgeous ocean front trails, and mild weather, they can bike throughout the year. *photos provided by Fran Long*

## Central Council of California

*by Fran Long, President*

Central Council offers a variety of services to its member clubs. Our four smaller clubs rely on Central Council more heavily for travel options, weekend ski trips, etc. than the four larger clubs. For all our member clubs, Central Council offers information and options. The individual clubs choose how much of the information filters down to their members, and how many of those options they want made available to their membership. Clubs generally like to offer the benefits made available by the council, Far West Ski Association, and the National Ski Council Federation, including travel options, discount lodging, and discounts at various ski related venues. If you are a club member, and you haven't heard about the benefits and options available to you, inquire at your next meeting, or contact your council president or membership person directly.

Central Council sponsors and/or co-sponsors several events each year. A variety of weekend and midweek trips to Mammoth Mountain is always in the mix. The council also supports the FWSA North American Ski Week held the end of January or the beginning of February each year, the Mini Ski Week usually held in the



*How about some Salsa Lessons after a day on the Mt. Bachelor slopes?*

spring, the International Ski Week, as well as the many adventure trips FWSA has to offer.

Central Council currently has eight clubs, one of which is an on-line family adventure club. All of the clubs have very active winter travel programs as well as a variety of summer activities that are bound to attract the attention of anyone interested in getting to know people, having fun, and staying active. Contact information on all our clubs can be found adjacent to this article. Check us out. If you live in the Central California area, chances are we have a club near you. Look around, join as a stranger, and plan to leave with many life-long friends.

Basic information is located on our website: [www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org), and more detailed information can be received by contacting those in charge of the events you will find on the website.

## Central Council of California

[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)

President: *Fran Long*

805-238-1375

[francat2007@sbcglobal.net](mailto:francat2007@sbcglobal.net)

## Central Council of California

**Member Clubs &**

**Contact Information**

## AVALANCHE SKI AND SPORTS CLUB

Serving Bakersfield, Kern County

[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)

President: *Donna Barnes*

[dblazekwebb@gmail.com](mailto:dblazekwebb@gmail.com)

## CAMBER SKI CLUB

Serving the Salinas Valley and parts of Monterey County

[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)

Activities: *Jayne Camic*  
[camicski@aol.com](mailto:camicski@aol.com)

## CENTRAL COAST OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CLUB

Serving families in the central California area

[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)

Facilitator: *Fran Long*  
[fancat@me.com](mailto:fancat@me.com)

## FRESNO SKI CLUB

Serving Fresno County

[www.fresnoskiclub.com](http://www.fresnoskiclub.com)

President: *Scott Knutson*

[president@fresnoskiclub.com](mailto:president@fresnoskiclub.com)

## OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS

Serving Fresno County

Facilitator: *Bob Strickland*

[Bstrick60@att.net](mailto:Bstrick60@att.net)

## SANTA BARBARA SKI AND SPORTS CLUB

Serving Santa Barbara County

[www.sbski.org](http://www.sbski.org)

President: *Tara Brown*

[president@sbski.org](mailto:president@sbski.org)

## SLO SKIERS, INC., A SKI SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Serving San Luis Obispo, Southern Monterey and Northern Santa Barbara Counties

[www.sloskiers.org](http://www.sloskiers.org)

President: *John Smith*

[president@sloskiers.org](mailto:president@sloskiers.org)

## SNOW TRACKERS

Serving Exeter, California

[www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org)

President: *Helen Salisbury Jacobson*

[helenzz@aol.com](mailto:helenzz@aol.com)

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA





*Bear Mountain and Snow Summit are conveniently located to skiers and boarders in Southern California. The two sister resorts are accessed with a single lift ticket. Bear Mountain is also known as "The Park" because most of the runs contain terrain features, making it a favorite for snowboarders. Snow Summit remains a family friendly mountain. Lee Stockwell-Big Bear Mountain Resorts*

## Inland Council

by Dan Crawford, President

Inland Council was formed in 1971. The council currently represents three ski clubs from the Inland Empire region of Southern California. Its affiliated clubs actively promote a variety of recreational opportunities for non-skiers, skiers, and snowboarders. Clubs schedule trips to Mammoth Mountain and Lake Tahoe during the ski season, plus outings throughout the year including water ski trips, kayaking, bike rides, social gatherings, barbecues, and more. We welcome volunteers to help organize and run our club and council programs. If you have any interest, please contact Wayne Stolfus.

The racers from Inland Council will participate this year by attending the race weekends and events at Mammoth Mountain sponsored by Rokka and Schuski leagues. Some of our racers will also participate in the races offered by Sierra and Open Leagues in the Lake Tahoe area. In addition, racers will be part of the SoCal Championships in March and the Far West Racing Championships in April at Mammoth Mountain.

This past year, Sitzmarkers Ski & Social Club attended the great FWSA 2013 Ski Week at Aspen/Snowmass with a group of their associate members from the

Milwaukee Sitzmarker Ski Club, and they plan to participate at the 2014 FWSA Ski Week at Beaver Creek. We look forward to another exciting week with lots of activities, parties, racing, and exceptional skiing. Club members have also attended and enjoyed many FWSA International trips.

### Inland Council Racing League

[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)

President: Dan Crawford

816-805-0384

macrci@aol.com

### Inland Council Racing League Member Clubs & Contact Information

#### CANYON LAKE ALPINE CLUB

President: Betsy Weil

betsy@inland.net

#### FLATLANDS SKI CLUB

President: Dan Crawford

Cell: 816-805-0384

macrci@aol.com

#### SITZMARKERS SKI & SOCIAL CLUB

[www.sitzmarkers.com](http://www.sitzmarkers.com)

Info Number: 951-780-0188

#### SNO CATS SKI CLUB

President: Chuck Rue

909-985-8856

c.rue@prodigy.net



*As participants registered, they received information on all the many services available from Grand Targhee: ski lessons, snow cat trips, and more!*

## Intermountain Ski Council

by Michael Bouton, President

The Intermountain Ski Council is coming of age. We have added four new clubs, experienced an epic ski trip to Grand Targhee Resort, padded our treasury a bit with a very successful auction and raffle, and have a full slate of officers going into our 8th year with the Far West Ski Association. Along with all of that, we have shown increasing numbers of delegates attending the annual conventions.

We have our ski trip planned this next season for Jackson Hole, Wyoming, the first week of March, 2014. The tentative price is \$599 for four days of lift passes and five nights of lodging with breakfast and transportation to Teton Village. This should be a great time of year for lots of powder. ISC along with the Idaho Falls Ski Club will sponsor a European ski trip to Grindelwald, Switzerland in February, 2014. The prices will be available by September. We'd like to invite other clubs to participate. We have a club from Maryland traveling out to Jackson Hole. Our reputation from last season at Targhee has spread to the east coast. We are a fun bunch!

The council officers for this year are: President - Michael Bouton; Treasurer - Paul Markowitz; Secretary - Luci Snowsosi; Communication Director - Lennia



*The "Inner-Tube Derby" event awarded prizes for costuming, most tube runs, etc., and featured the shot ski shown in action here. sponsored by Ullr made by Hood River Distillers.*

Machen; VP of Travel - Kitty Im-dahl; and VP of Membership - Kim Hovern. They were elected at the regular council meeting held June 11, 2013.

I believe this will be an energetic and creative group of people moving the council forward for greater purposes into the future. I will be adding a representative from each of our University Clubs (Boise State, Utah State, and Weber State Universities) in the fall. There will be plenty of young skiers and boarders to learn a few things from, as well as, to recruit others to our clubs. I know we can have some terrific service programs going on throughout the season.

Our goal this coming season is to bring our clubs together for more fun experiences and relationship building. We are spread out over five states and many miles. It takes a special event to get many of us together. I am hopeful that we can achieve this at our ISC ski trip to Jackson Hole. I am looking forward to a terrific trip with many of you attending. Let us make your ski vacation a really great experience.





The Intermountain Ski Council trip was coordinated by Michael Bouton and his wife Julie. Eighty-five skiers attended their council ski week trip to Grand Targhee, Wyoming. Grand Targhee is located on the west slope or "wet" side of the 13,700' Grand Tetons. Thus, the resort averages over 500 inches of snowfall per season ranking it among the top ski resorts in North America for abundant snow. The majority of the trails are black or double black diamond, however, there are also Nordic skiing trails, snowshoeing, snowcat adventures, and activities that include sleigh ride dinners and dogsled tours.

RIGHT: The 2014 Intermountain Council Ski Week is scheduled for Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Jackson Hole's terrain is considered to be some of the most challenging in North America. In addition to the skiable terrain inbounds, there is an even larger area to be explored off-piste. Grand Targhee photos provided by Lemnia Machen



photo courtesy of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

## Intermountain Ski Council

[www.intermountainskicouncil.org](http://www.intermountainskicouncil.org)

President: Michael Bouton  
208-352-0278  
[powderdays@reagan.com](mailto:powderdays@reagan.com)

## Intermountain Ski Council Member Clubs & Contact Information

**BLACK HILLS SKI CLUB**  
[www.bhskiclub.com](http://www.bhskiclub.com)  
Serving the Rapid City,  
South Dakota area  
Representative: Steve Jones  
[lilboybuell@rushmore.com](mailto:lilboybuell@rushmore.com)

**BOGUS BASIN SKI CLUB**  
<http://bogusbasinskiclub.org/>  
Serving the Boise, Idaho area  
Darryl Kuhrt  
[president@bogusbasinskiclub.org](mailto:president@bogusbasinskiclub.org)

**BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY  
SKI CLUB**  
<http://rec.boisestate.edu/clubsports/interest/details.cfm?id=20>  
Serving students enrolled at  
Boise State University  
David Redinger  
[davidredinger@u.boisestate.edu](mailto:davidredinger@u.boisestate.edu)

**CHEYENNE SKI CLUB**  
[www.cheyenneskiclub.com](http://www.cheyenneskiclub.com)  
Serving the Cheyenne, Wyoming area  
Jodee Pring  
[jodeepring@hotmail.com](mailto:jodeepring@hotmail.com)

**HILL SKI CLUB**  
Serving the Hill Air Force Base,  
Clearfield, UT  
Luci Sosnovski  
[luci122955@yahoo.com](mailto:luci122955@yahoo.com)

**IDAHO FALLS SKI CLUB**  
[www.ifsikiclub.com](http://www.ifsikiclub.com)  
Serving the Idaho Falls, Idaho area  
Don Rasch  
[skibiz@ida.net](mailto:skibiz@ida.net)

**PARK CITY MOUNTAIN  
SPORTS CLUB**  
[www.pcmsc.org](http://www.pcmsc.org)  
Serving the Park City, Utah area  
Sue Johnson  
[sue@njwest.com](mailto:sue@njwest.com)

**POCATELLO SKI  
ASSOCIATION**  
[www.pocatellooski.com](http://www.pocatellooski.com)  
Serving the Pocatello, Idaho area  
Maria Hancock  
[MariaL12203@yahoo.com](mailto:MariaL12203@yahoo.com)

**PRIMETIMERS SKI CLUB**  
<http://www.bogusbasin.org/the-mountain/teams-clubs/prime-timers.aspx>  
Serving male skiers at the  
Bogus Basin Ski Resort  
Ben Doty  
[bdoty80826@aol.com](mailto:bdoty80826@aol.com)

**UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY  
SKI CLUB**  
<http://campusrec.utah.edu/>  
Serving students enrolled at  
Utah State University  
Will Hamann  
[wmhamann@gmail.com](mailto:wmhamann@gmail.com)

**VERITGALS SKI CLUB**  
<https://www.facebook.com/vertigals>  
Serving women skiers at the Bogus  
Basin Ski Resort  
Tina Richards  
[Tina.boise@gmail.com](mailto:Tina.boise@gmail.com)





## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

by Sandra Knapp, President

As the new president of Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, I am blessed with an experienced and capable group of officers who are already hard at work preparing for another year of skiing and fun for our 25 member clubs. The Los Angeles Council is one of the oldest and largest councils in the Far West Ski Association.

I am excited to report we had a great turnout at the fabulous 81st Annual FWSA Convention in Reno this past June! And, we are all proud of our new FWSA President, Linda Scott, from Grindelwald Ski Club, Los Angeles Council; and Cheyenne Ski Club, Intermountain Ski Council. We are also proud to bring home awards for club newsletters and websites, which included Pacific Rim Alliance and Single Ski Club, AND the Outstanding Council Publication Award for the Los Angeles Council newsletter, *Snow Scene*. Congratulations Bonnie West! Congratulations also goes to Catherine Ohl, Pacific Rim Alliance, and Jane Wyckoff, Single Ski Club, both recipients of the FWSA President's Award.

I think our greatest pride comes from our \$100 award for the Council division of the FWSA Charity and Community Service

Mammoth Mountain is a favorite destination for Los Angeles Council club members for a weekend or longer of racing and skiing. **LEFT:** Fred Yamashita, Race Chairman of Grindelwald Ski Club, clocks a fast pace on the course in a League Race. *photo provided by Ann Lawson* **RIGHT:** Members of the Kronenstadt Ski Club meet for a day of skiing in front of McCoy Station. *photo by Bruce Bailey*



Recognition Program. We donated it to The Unrecables, our adaptive snowsports club, which serves snowsport lovers with special needs. We'll aim to make next year a repeat!

Our FWSA Athletic Scholarship sponsored junior racer, Kayleigh MacGregor and her parents, Christina and Brian, were able to join us at the Convention for the Saturday luncheon and dinner. Kayleigh thanked FWSA and LA Council for their support the past year, and must have inspired everyone to generate additional donations to the scholarship program on Sunday morning. Congratulations Kayleigh! LA Council will continue its sponsorship for the 2013-2014 year.

Sandra Blackwell, VP of Travel for LA Council ran our council ski trip to Mt. Bachelor February 23 - March 2. Seventeen happy skiers enjoyed the various faces of Mt. Bachelor, as well as, the wonders and delights of Deschutes County and Bend. We're looking forward to exploring more of this marvelous area next year at the 82nd FWSA Convention in Bend, Oregon, June 12-15, 2014.

Looking ahead, we are planning another season-starting Snow Gala, this time at the presti-

gious Taix French Restaurant (pronounced "tax", really) November 9. We look forward to choosing LAC's Man and Woman of the year to compete in the FWSA Councils' Man and Woman of the Year competition at next year's FWSA Convention, honoring outstanding ski club volunteers. Congratulations to Steve Elkins and Sandy Blackwell, of Single Ski Club, our 2012-2013 LA Council Man and Woman of the Year, who were recognized for their outstanding contributions at the 2013 FWSA Convention. Also, we plan to have another great time at this year's Ski Dazzle December 5 - 8 at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The Los Angeles Council Ski, Ride & Race Camp is held each year in December at Mammoth Mountain, California. Various clubs run their own week-long ski trips during ski season which will be posted on our website as information becomes available. Let's all cross our fingers for a super ski season for 2013-2014.

Mark your calendars for all these events and check our website at [www.lacouncil.org](http://www.lacouncil.org), and especially our website calendar for more exciting activities.

## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

[www.lacouncil.org](http://www.lacouncil.org)

President: Sandra Knapp

323-793-4250

[lapresident@lacouncil.org](mailto:lapresident@lacouncil.org)

## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

Member Clubs & Contact Information

### AEA (AEROSPACE) SKI CLUB

South Bay

[www.aeacclubs.org/ski](http://www.aeacclubs.org/ski)

President: Andrew Dawdy

[AEASkiPres@gmail.com](mailto:AEASkiPres@gmail.com)

### ASIAN SKI & BOARD CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

Central Los Angeles

[www.asbcla.org](http://www.asbcla.org)

Contact: Stephen Ott

213-367-4187

[Stephen\\_ott@att.net](mailto:Stephen_ott@att.net)

### AUSLICH SKI & RECREATION CLUB

Belmont Shore/Long Beach

President: Ken Kern

562-423-7249

[Kenkern@earthlink.net](mailto:Kenkern@earthlink.net)

### BEACH CITIES SKI CLUB

Beach Cities

[www.bcskiclub.org](http://www.bcskiclub.org)

President: Bruce Lee

[president@bcskiclub.org](mailto:president@bcskiclub.org)





**TOP:** Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs was presented with the 1st Annual FWSA Council Charity and Community Service Recognition at the Convention. Sandra Knapp, President of LAC, presents Gordon Cardona of The Unrecables with the \$100 Award Check. *photo by Bruce Bailey* **LOWER:** LAC members had a fabulous time on their Ski Week to Mt. Bachelor. *photo provided by Sandra Knapp*



**Members from Grindelwald Ski Club, and John Watson, FWSA History Committee Chair, presented Ingrid Wichen (standing back right) with the 2013 FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award sponsored by Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation. Also see article on page 39. photo provided by John Watson**

#### CCSC SPORTS

West Side Los Angeles  
[www.ccscsports.org](http://www.ccscsports.org)  
 President: David Krupp  
 310-925-4143  
[president@ccscsports.org](mailto:president@ccscsports.org)

#### CONEJO SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Thousand Oaks  
[www.conejoskiclub.org](http://www.conejoskiclub.org)  
 President: Richard Murray  
 805-368-6473;  
[rwmurray3@gmail.com](mailto:rwmurray3@gmail.com)

#### EDELWEISS SKI & SPORT CLUB

San Fernando Valley  
[www.edelweisskiclub.org](http://www.edelweisskiclub.org)  
 President: Wendy Goldzband  
 818-462-1938  
[wendygoldzband@gmail.com](mailto:wendygoldzband@gmail.com)

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Los Angeles  
 President: Keith Green  
 323-691-1918; [keithexboard@netzero.net](mailto:keithexboard@netzero.net)

#### FOUR SEASONS WEST SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB

Los Angeles  
[www.4sw.com](http://www.4sw.com)  
 President: Jane Gutierrez  
 310-721-2004;  
[jtgutie10@4sw.com](mailto:jtgutie10@4sw.com)

#### GRINDELWALD SKI CLUB

Los Angeles  
[www.grindelwaldskiclub.org](http://www.grindelwaldskiclub.org)  
 President: Alicia McViker  
 818-249-9791  
[alimacgreat@aol.com](mailto:alimacgreat@aol.com)

#### HUGHES SKI CLUB

South Bay  
 President: Steve Klinger  
 310-802-8190

#### KRONENSTADT SKI CLUB

Pasadena  
[www.kronenstadtskiclub.com](http://www.kronenstadtskiclub.com)  
 President: Bruce Bailey  
 626-792-3460  
[bbailey@gwa-architects.com](mailto:bbailey@gwa-architects.com)

#### LONG BEACH SKI CLUB

Long Beach/South Bay  
[www.longbeachskiclub.org](http://www.longbeachskiclub.org)  
 President: Chris Flaig  
 562-818-2874  
[president@longbeachskiclub.org](mailto:president@longbeachskiclub.org)

#### LOS PADRES SKI CLUB

Simi Valley/Ventura County  
[www.lospadresskiclub.net](http://www.lospadresskiclub.net)  
 President: Jeff Heath  
 805-647-1600  
[jch160@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jch160@sbcglobal.net)

#### PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE

Southern California  
[www.pacificrimalliance.org](http://www.pacificrimalliance.org)  
 President: Catherine Ohl  
 858-467-9469  
[ohl@acatmeowz.com](mailto:ohl@acatmeowz.com)

#### RADAR RIVER RATS (aka HEASB WATER SKI CLUB)

Southern California  
[www.radarriverrats.org](http://www.radarriverrats.org)  
 President: Catherine Ohl  
 858-467-9469  
[ohl@acatmeowz.com](mailto:ohl@acatmeowz.com)

#### SAGA SKI CLUB

Los Angeles  
[www.SagaLa.org](http://www.SagaLa.org)  
 President: Don Wildy  
 818-486-9600  
[president@sagala.org](mailto:president@sagala.org)

#### SANTA BARBARA SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Santa Barbara County/Los Angeles  
[www.sbski.org](http://www.sbski.org)  
 President: Tara Brown  
 805-965-0959  
[president@sbski.org](mailto:president@sbski.org)

#### SINGLE SKI CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles  
[www.singleskiclub.org](http://www.singleskiclub.org)  
 President: Sandra Blackwell  
[sblackwell@brightandbrown.com](mailto:sblackwell@brightandbrown.com)

#### SLOPE SURFERS SKI CLUB

Los Angeles  
[Slopesurfers.com](http://Slopesurfers.com)  
 President: Chris Kishida  
[President@slopesurfers.org](mailto:President@slopesurfers.org)

#### SPACE PARK SKI CLUB (formerly TRW)

Los Angeles  
[spaceparkskiandsnowboardclub.org](http://spaceparkskiandsnowboardclub.org)  
 President: Phil Weisgerber  
 310-921-9341  
[philw599@gmail.com](mailto:philw599@gmail.com)

#### THE UNRECABLES

Los Angeles  
[www.unrecables.org](http://www.unrecables.org)  
 President: J.Davis  
 949-378-7895  
[Jveezer@cox.net](mailto:Jveezer@cox.net)

#### TRI VALLEY SKI CLUB

San Gabriel Valley  
 President: Bruce Freeman  
 909-624-7089  
[brucefree4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brucefree4@sbcglobal.net)

#### WAILERS SKI CLUB

San Gabriel Valley/Los Angeles  
[www.wailersskiclub.org](http://www.wailersskiclub.org)  
 President: Pete Smith  
 626-676-8203  
[president@wailersskiclub.org](mailto:president@wailersskiclub.org)

#### WESTWOOD SKI & SPORTS CLUB

West Los Angeles  
[www.westwoodskiclub.org](http://www.westwoodskiclub.org)  
 President: Scott Peer  
 818-500-0488  
[scottpeer@aol.com](mailto:scottpeer@aol.com)





*Much of the terrain in Taos Ski Valley is challenging, best suited for strong intermediates or experts. There are many great chutes and off-piste runs for thrills. But, there is also terrain for the beginner and intermediate; and an award winning ski school, as well as ski improvement camps to advance ones skills to get to the next level. The European influenced resort village at the base is conveniently located for all your needs, while the town of Taos is filled with a mixture of Hispanic and Pueblo Indian cultures.*

*Taos Ski Valley/Eva Wagner skiing Hidalgo, by Kevin Rebholtz, photographer*

## New Mexico Ski Club Council

*by Diane Stearley, President*

The New Mexico Ski Club Council was formed in 1999 and is still the smallest council in the Far West Ski Association. We serve mostly the Northern and Central area of New Mexico with all clubs located in the Albuquerque area. Even though our clubs all have skiing in common, they each are friendly, vibrant clubs with their own diverse character and size of membership.

This year, our clubs enjoyed several ski trips mostly in New Mexico and Colorado. Taos, Red River, Santa Fe, Telluride, Crested Butte, and Pagosa Springs, were all club organized trips with many sub-groups within the clubs tripping out to destinations far and wide.

The New Mexico Cross Country Ski Club and the Sitzmarkers Ski Club are year 'round clubs and enjoy water skiing, boating, camping, softball leagues, backyard parties, and just hanging out together.

Being a member of a FWSA ski club has many great benefits, including: group travel, the opportunity to race, receiving the *Far West Skier's Guide* magazine, FWSA support to local clubs on local issues regarding insurance



*Historic Taos Pueblo*

and legislation, and networking with other similar minded ski enthusiasts.

If you have not yet found a ski club in the New Mexico area, please check out one of these great clubs and join us on the slopes this winter, or at one of our other great outdoor adventures.

## New Mexico Ski Club Council

[www.skinewmexico.org](http://www.skinewmexico.org)

President: *Diane Stearley*

505-281-3755

[dmstear@att.net](mailto:dmstear@att.net)

## New Mexico Ski Club Council Member Clubs & Contact Information

### ALBUQUERQUE SKI CLUB

*Virtual Club*

[www.abqskiclub.com](http://www.abqskiclub.com)

President: *Ray Towne*

### NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB

[www.nmccskiclub.org](http://www.nmccskiclub.org)

President: *Wayne Kirkby*

### SITZMARKERS SKI CLUB

[www.nmsitzmarkers.org](http://www.nmsitzmarkers.org)

President: *Paul Adkin*

NEW MEXICO SKI CLUB COUNCIL



*The National Ski Council Federation meeting was held at Grand Targhee, Wyoming in late September. Council presidents from around the country attended along with numerous industry representatives.*

*Photo / National Ski Council Newsletter*



## Northwest Ski Club Council

by Mary Olhausen, President

Northwest Ski Club Council, organized in 1979, represents 35 ski and snowboard clubs in Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii. Our clubs offer winter activities with club trips to many western ski resorts. Summer months bring lots of outdoor activities including cycling, hiking, golfing, sailing, and specialty trips and events like wine tours, seafood parties, theater, festivals and club picnics.

NWSCC meets every other month at Portland area venues for a lively meeting with varying themes and guest speakers. Topics include travel, safety, outreach and charities, ski resort news, and club activities. When you join a NWSCC club, you are automatically a member of Far West Ski Association. NWSCC is also affiliated with Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association (PNSAA), the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), and the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF). The NSCF brings you lots of member benefits for your skiing and travel needs. Visit them at [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org). In addition, we are associated with Ski Oregon.

Our kickoff event for ski season is our annual Ski Fair on November 18, 2013 at Holiday Inn Airport, in Portland. This event is open to the public and member clubs have the opportunity to showcase their clubs. In addition, at this one-night trade show, we offer ski industry booth displays, discounted ski passes, a silent auction and door prizes. NWSCC will also participate in industry ski shows: Seattle Ski Show (November 8-10) and Portland Ski Fever Show (November 15-17). These shows provide our council and clubs an opportunity to provide information to the public about the benefits of ski club membership and our various activities.

Our Ski Challenge Program



**Whitewater Ski Area is located in Southern British Columbia, a convenient drive from the Northwestern states. The resort receives plenty of dry snow - averaging approximately 40 feet annually. The resort is noted for its tree skiing and steep runs. About 40% of the terrain is advanced.** photo provided by Emilio Trampuz

provides encouragement for skier visits to our supporting resorts in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, British Columbia and Alberta. Collect lift tickets and win prizes! Through the ski season, we promote several "Ski Days" at our local resorts, encouraging club participation.

Our annual publication, *Northwest Skiers' Directory*, is published each fall, in conjunction with our commercial membership program. The Directory provides club profiles, ski resort stats and interesting ski-related stories. Look for a copy in your favorite NW outdoor store! Our advocacy group, Northwest Snowsports Advocates, partners with our ski industry friends when our opinions can make a difference with public affairs and ski area development.

Racing is very popular with our NW skiers. Our recreational race league, PACRAT, is open to skiers and snowboarders of all abilities. First time racers are especially encouraged to participate. The end of season race party, fondly known as the Rat Attack, is held in April. For more information on racing with PACRAT, please visit their website at [www.pacrats.org](http://www.pacrats.org).

NWSCC clubs are known for their charitable and community outreach efforts! A few of the organizations we support are Hope On The Slopes-Ski & Ride For A Cure, Mt. Bachelor Ski Education Foundation, Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum, Mt. Hood Ski Education Foundation, Mt. Hood

Ski Patrol, Outdoors For All Foundation, Northwest Trail Alliance, Oregon Adaptive Sports, and Oregon Cancer Ski Out. Some of the great events/programs we support are, Adopt A Highway, Ski to Defeat ALS, Adaptive Skier Programs, Hope On The Slopes/Ski & Ride For A Cure, Susan G. Komen, Oregon Food Bank, and Special Olympics.

In addition, NWSCC and three of our member clubs support the FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program with contributions to assist junior racers. The clubs are Ski-yente Ski Club, Mountain High Snowsport Club, and Bergfreunde Ski Club. NWSCC was a proud contributor to the US Women's Ski Jumping to assist them to get to Sochi in 2014. We held a fundraiser, showing the documentary movie "Ready To Fly".

NWSCC, member clubs and a local ski resort took home awards at the 2013 Far West Convention: Outstanding Website Award - Ski-yente Ski Club and Mt. High Snowsport Club; Outstanding Council Website and Newsletter - NW Ski Club Council; FWSA Tommi Tyndall Award - Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort; FWSA Safety Award - Gordon Lusk; and FWSA Jimmie Heuga Award - Fred Noble.

Dale Parshall and Louise DeFresne represented NWSCC as Councils' Man and Woman of The Year. To our delight, Dale was named FWSA Councils' Man of The Year.

One of the greatest benefits of membership in NWSCC and

FWSA are the ski trip opportunities, with exceptional offerings of location, lodging and lift tickets. And, don't forget the FUN you will have skiing new places, with new friends!

NWSCC will participate in the FWSA Ski Week to Beaver Creek, CO, with about 40 club members. FWSA offers an array of travel opportunities, so check out the FWSA website for all the details, including the Mini Ski Week, dive trip, adventure trip, and International Ski Week to Zermatt, Switzerland.

Can you say "Volcanic Paradise"? In June 2014, NWSCC invites you to Bend, Oregon where we will celebrate our 35th birthday and host the 82nd Annual FWSA Convention. The dates are June 12-15. Our host lodging will be The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center. Make plans now to arrive early and stay late for all that central Oregon and Bend have to offer. Limitless world famous outdoor activities await you. Optional activities for the convention will include a Mt. Bachelor Ski Day & Tailgater Party, Pub Crawling Bend Style, Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Adventure Day at Smith Rock State Park, and Biking Around Bend.

For more information on our council or any of our clubs, trips and activities, and a link to Snowsports Advocates, please check out our website at [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org).



- ▶ **Northwest Ski Club Council**  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
 President: Mary Olhausen  
 503-880-7383  
[president@nwskiers.org](mailto:president@nwskiers.org)

**Northwest Ski Club Council**  
**Member Clubs & Contact Information**

## Alaska

**MATSU SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
 Location: Wasila, Alaska  
[www.matsusnow.org](http://www.matsusnow.org)  
[matsusnow@mtaonline.net](mailto:matsusnow@mtaonline.net)

## Hawaii

**HAWAII SNOW SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Aiea, Hawaii  
[www.hawaiiisnowskiclub.com](http://www.hawaiiisnowskiclub.com)  
[pres@hawaiiisnowskiclub.com](mailto:pres@hawaiiisnowskiclub.com)

## Oregon

**ALTAIR SKI & SPORTS CLUB**  
 Location: Eugene, Oregon  
[www.altairsports.org](http://www.altairsports.org)  
[skialtair@yahoo.com](mailto:skialtair@yahoo.com)

**BEND SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Bend, Oregon  
[www.bendskiclub.info](http://www.bendskiclub.info)  
[bendssc@aol.com](mailto:bendssc@aol.com)

**BERGFREUNDE SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.bergfreunde.org](http://www.bergfreunde.org)  
[skiclub@bergfreunde.org](mailto:skiclub@bergfreunde.org)

**CABERNET SKI & SAIL CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
[johnoreinhardt@hotmail.com](mailto:johnoreinhardt@hotmail.com)

**CASCADE PRIME TIMERS SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.cascadeprimetimers.org](http://www.cascadeprimetimers.org)  
[president@cascadeprime timers.org](mailto:president@cascadeprime timers.org)

**CASCADE SKI CLUB, INC**  
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon  
[www.cascadeskiclub.org](http://www.cascadeskiclub.org)  
[ldge@cascadeskiclub.org](mailto:ldge@cascadeskiclub.org)



LEFT: The ladies of Skiyenti Ski Club ride their float in the Fourth of July Parade in Elgin, Oregon. photos provided by Mary Olhausen

**MEADOWS RACE TEAM**  
 Location: Hood River, Oregon  
[www.meadowsraceteam.org](http://www.meadowsraceteam.org)  
[meadowsraceteam@gmail.com](mailto:meadowsraceteam@gmail.com)

**MT. BACHELOR SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION**  
 Location: Bend, Oregon  
[www.mbsef.org](http://www.mbsef.org)  
[mbsef@mbsef.org](mailto:mbsef@mbsef.org)

**MT. HOOD CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM**  
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon  
[www.mthoodmuseum.org](http://www.mthoodmuseum.org)  
[info@mthoodmuseum.org](mailto:info@mthoodmuseum.org)

**MT. HOOD SKI EDUCATION FOUNDATION**  
 Location: Government Camp, Oregon  
[www.mthoodacademy.org](http://www.mthoodacademy.org)  
[hgunesch@centurytel.net](mailto:hgunesch@centurytel.net)

**MT. HOOD SKI PATROL**  
 Location: Mt. Hood, Oregon  
[www.mthoodskipatrol.org](http://www.mthoodskipatrol.org)  
[mhsp@onebox.com](mailto:mhsp@onebox.com)

**MT. HOOD SKIKATS**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
[Jeannie@jeannicoyle.com](mailto:Jeannie@jeannicoyle.com)

**MOUNTAIN HIGH SNOWSPORT CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.mthigh.org](http://www.mthigh.org)  
[info@mthigh.org](mailto:info@mthigh.org)

**MULTNOMAH ATHLETIC CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.themac.com](http://www.themac.com)  
[cfailla@themac.com](mailto:cfailla@themac.com)

**NORTHWEST TRAIL ALLIANCE**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.nw-trail.org](http://www.nw-trail.org)  
[info@nw-trail.org](mailto:info@nw-trail.org)

**OREGON ADAPTIVE SPORTS**  
 Location: Bend, Oregon  
[www.oregonadaptivesports.org](http://www.oregonadaptivesports.org)  
[oasbend@gmail.com](mailto:oasbend@gmail.com)

**OREGON CANCER SKI OUT**  
 Location: Wilsonville, Oregon  
[www.cancerskiout.org](http://www.cancerskiout.org)  
[cancerskiout@gmail.com](mailto:cancerskiout@gmail.com)

**OREGON NORDIC CLUB-PORTLAND CHAPTER**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.onc.org/pdx-onc](http://www.onc.org/pdx-onc)  
[membership@onc.org](mailto:membership@onc.org)

**SCHNEE VOGELI SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)

**SKIYENTE SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Portland, Oregon  
[www.skiyente.com](http://www.skiyente.com)  
[skiyente@yahoo.com](mailto:skiyente@yahoo.com)

## Washington

**COWLITZ COUNTY SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Longview, Washington  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
 Contact: Norvin Peer  
 (360) 423-5422

**DESERT SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Tri-Cities, Washington  
[www.desertskiclub.org](http://www.desertskiclub.org)  
[info@desertskiclub.org](mailto:info@desertskiclub.org)

**HOPE ON THE SLOPES / SKI & RIDE FOR A CURE**  
 Location: Tacoma, WA  
[www.hopeontheslopes.net](http://www.hopeontheslopes.net)  
[piercyen@aol.com](mailto:piercyen@aol.com)

**LONGVIEW SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Longview, Washington  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
[janerosi@wildblue.net](mailto:janerosi@wildblue.net)

**OUTDOORS FOR ALL FOUNDATION**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.outdoorsforall.org](http://www.outdoorsforall.org)  
[info@outdoorsforall.org](mailto:info@outdoorsforall.org)



TOP: Mt. High Snowsports Club ride their bikes at Barlow Trail, Oregon. LOWER: Snojoke members meet at the beach for a hike.

**S'NO JOKE SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.snojoke.org](http://www.snojoke.org)  
[info@snojoke.org](mailto:info@snojoke.org)

**SEATTLE SINGLES YACHT CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.ssysc.com](http://www.ssysc.com)  
[info@ssyc.com](mailto:info@ssyc.com)

**SEATTLE SKI AND SNOWBOARD**  
 Meetup.com Group  
 Location: Seattle, WA  
[www.meetup.com/SkiSeattle/](http://www.meetup.com/SkiSeattle/)

**SKIBACS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.skibacs.org](http://www.skibacs.org)  
[info@skibacs.org](mailto:info@skibacs.org)

**SKIHAWKS SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.skihawks.org](http://www.skihawks.org)  
[Skihawks@earthlink.net](mailto:Skihawks@earthlink.net)

**STARBUCKS ALPINE SKI CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
[gmarney@starbucks.com](mailto:gmarney@starbucks.com)

**VANCOUVER SNOW & SPORTS CLUB**  
 Location: Vancouver, Washington  
[www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org)  
[sylviakerns@hotmail.com](mailto:sylviakerns@hotmail.com)

**WHSKI CLUB**  
 Location: Seattle, Washington  
[www.wihski.com](http://www.wihski.com)  
[duchscherej@yahoo.com](mailto:duchscherej@yahoo.com)





LEFT TO RIGHT: Balboa Ski and Sports Club members sent gift boxes to soldiers in Afghanistan. The ski trip to Sun Valley was fabulous, as was the FWSA Ski Week to Aspen/Snowmass. Balboa members kayak in Huntington Beach.

## Orange Council of Ski Clubs

by Judy Thurman, President

Orange Council of Ski Clubs has been serving the ski community in and around Orange County, and the Southern California Area, since 1971. We are, and always have been, an active member of the Far West Ski Association and a member of the National Ski Council Federation.

Orange Council not only offers great travel adventures in skiing, but also supports some very important programs, such as the United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC), the Wounded Warriors, and many community charities. We also support FWSA's Athletic Scholarship Program and remain informed about public affairs issues, such as area development, ski safety and ski history.

Orange Council, and its ski clubs' travel programs, feature a variety of different ski trips. Our clubs schedule weekend ski trips to Mammoth Mountain, from December to March, and sometimes in July, if the snow is still good. We do have a few hearty souls still skiing Mammoth Mountain if the resort is still open as we enter the summer months. Because we have so many ski clubs located within the "OC", there are a variety of different trips offered throughout the ski season.



photos by Jess Gorman

Orange Council is very proud to have a very strong race program. We are members of the Rokka (Shuski) Race League. Our first race will be in Mammoth on December 13-15, 2013. The 2014 schedule is January 10-13, February 21-24, and March 21-24. Finals will be held at Mammoth Mountain April 4-6, 2014. We welcome anyone who is interested in racing, or want to learn to race, or used to race and would like to get back into racing, to please contact Maxine Hanlon, our VP Racing at [maxch@prodigy.net](mailto:maxch@prodigy.net).

All clubs have scheduled several weekend, mid-week trips to Mammoth Mountain, and other out of the area ski week trips. Some out of state ski week trips scheduled for 2014 are Fountain Valley Ski Club to Whistler, Canada February 22 - March 1, 2014, and Orange County Ski and Snowboarding Club is taking a group up to Lake Tahoe. For information on any of these trips and other activities please go to [www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org).

This year, Orange Council will be attending the Far West Ski Association Ski Week 2014 in Beaver Creek, Colorado, January 25 - February 1, 2014. The ski week is always filled with lots of skiing, racing, après parties, dinner and

camaraderie. If you would like to join us for this wonderful trip, please contact Sheila Van Guilder our VP of Travel at [svanguil@yahoo.com](mailto:svanguil@yahoo.com).

As a member of the Far West Ski Association, Orange Council attends the annual FWSA Convention, which was held in Reno, Nevada in June of 2013. This year, we were very proud to have Dean Young, a member of Balboa Ski and Sports Club, as our nominee for the FWSA Councils' Man of the Year recognition program. A big congratulations to Dean!

Orange Council of Ski Clubs is located in a variety of communities within the Orange County boundaries. All of our clubs have been working closely with the council since 1972. Each club is unique, offering different types of activities, ranging from ski and snowboarding, to summer sports, tennis, beach volleyball tournaments, kayaking, biking, wine tasting, and summer outdoor concerts.

Whether you live in north, central, east or west Orange County, or in one of our beach communities, there is a club especially for you. For more information about our organization and ski clubs, meeting times, and places, please check out our website.



## Orange Council of Ski Clubs

[www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org)

President: Judy Thurman

714-883-1216

[ylskicat@aol.com](mailto:ylskicat@aol.com)

## Orange Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

AUSLICH SKI & SPORTS CLUB  
[www.auslichskiclub.org](http://www.auslichskiclub.org)

BALBOA SKI & SPORTS CLUB  
[www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com](http://www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com)  
President: Jess E. Gorman  
714 491-2234  
[ejessgorman@gmail.com](mailto:ejessgorman@gmail.com)

FLATLANDS SKI CLUB  
President: Dan Crawford  
816 805 0384

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SKI CLUB  
[www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org](http://www.fountainvalleyskiclub.org)  
President: Jim Wisenbaker  
714-841-7814

HUNTINGTON BEACH SKI CLUB  
[www.hbskiclub.com](http://www.hbskiclub.com)  
President: Marty Golden

ORANGE COUNTY SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB  
President: Anne Barneson  
[pres@ocskiclub.com](mailto:pres@ocskiclub.com)

SHOOTERS  
[www.shootersskiclub.org](http://www.shootersskiclub.org)  
[Info@shootersskiclub.org](mailto:Info@shootersskiclub.org)

SNOWBOUNDERS SKI CLUB  
President: Ray Stewart  
[Rstew1929@gmail.com](mailto:Rstew1929@gmail.com)

SNOWFLIERS SKI CLUB  
President: Jim Hughes  
[James.hughes@boeing.com](mailto:James.hughes@boeing.com)

TRI VALLEY SKI CLUB  
Eastern LA County and Western San Bernardino County  
President: Bruce Freeburn  
909 624-7089  
[brucefee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brucefee@sbcglobal.net)

VAN BAKKE SKI CLUB  
[Casamadrid@earthlink.net](mailto:Casamadrid@earthlink.net)





LEFT TO RIGHT: Jean McCasey, Susan Shaffer, Stephanie Young, Rick Cole, Jim Bush, Debbie Schroder and Hobe Schroeder get ready for Loire Valley, France by riding around Silver Strand in San Diego. Ce bon! photos provided by Eileen Sanford

## San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

by Eileen Sanford, President

The mission of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs is to support and promote the sport of recreational skiing and snowboarding in the southern California area.

At the present time we have ten very active clubs. Hundreds of members belong to one or more of these clubs. They enjoy skiing and snowboarding nationally and internationally each year. Our clubs enjoy outdoor activities during the summer. Many of the clubs move their meetings to the parks and beaches for the summer. Members enjoy getting together for Padre games, museum tours, biking, hiking, tennis, horse races at Del Mar, Bunco parties and the Summer Pops concerts.

The ski season starts with sign-ups in October, racing in December and ski trips from December through April. The novelty of enjoying warm beautiful beaches all year long and being able to jump on a bus or plane and enjoy the winter sport of skiing or snowboarding is a drawing card for our strong support from club members.

The San Diego Alpine Race League is also continuing to promote recreational skiing and snowboard racing amongst the skiers in the San Diego area. SDCSC won the Southern California Race

Championships this year. We are proud of our strong participation and many individual winners. North Island Ski Club (NIS) won the Alpine League trophy again this year for the most club points of the season. Congratulations to Julio Deguzman and Lina Arnold, Race Directors. A special thanks goes the Alpine League Board: Eileen Weiner, President; Laura Meldrum, Race Statistics; Bob Brower, Vice President; Martin Washer, Lina Arnold, Tom Bundgard, and Carl Cobb, Club Race Directors.

The 2014 season opens with December trips to Aspen and Mammoth. The Mammoth trip will host our first Alpine League race of the season. The Aspen trip is the 17th Annual trip for the SDCSC. Mike Sanford, the Grand Aspen Puba, will lead the San Diegans down the slopes. Gates Ingram will cook his famous French Toast breakfast on the last day. People will gather for the annual Aspen gift exchange party and many more great optional activities including Happy Hours at the Jerome Hotel and the St. Regis Hotel.

During the winter 2013 season, 40 SDCSC members had a great time at the FWSA North America trip to Aspen/Snowmass.

Our members came back with great ski adventure and party stories due to the great efforts of Susan Shaffer, our travel director. Deposits are already coming in for the FWSA trip to Beaver Creek in 2014. Alan Godwin, assistant trip director, is joining the board. He is a snowboarder and hopes to encourage a younger crowd on the trips.

The SDCSC will have our second European bike trip in September 2013 to Loire Valley, France followed by a Grand Circle River Cruise down the Rhone River from Lyon to Nice. We have 21 bikers and 30 cruisers to enjoy the chateaus, wine and people of France. C'est la vie!

SDCSC is excited to announce a trip hosted by Overseas Adventure Travel to Serengeti, Africa on August 19, 2014. It will be a 13 day trip base with a three day pre-trip to Kilimanjaro and five day post-trip to Zanzibar. The base price is \$5,695 including airfare. Contact Eileen Sanford if interested. [esanford1@san.nr.com](mailto:esanford1@san.nr.com)

Individual clubs in 2013 went to: Vail, Mammoth, Big Bear, Park City, Big White, Northstar and Whitefish.

Plans for the 2014 ski trips include, Aspen, Beaver Creek, Big



Laura Wehsener, Alexa Wehsener, SDCSC Athletic Scholarship winner, and Eileen and Mike Sanford meet at Mammoth.

SDCSC is on the go!



TOP LEFT: Barbara Blase, Eileen Sanford and Chris Gill prepare to go on SDCSC Bike and Boat trip to France in September, 2014. Above: Eileen is also getting a group together to do a Serengeti Safari next August.

Bear, Mammoth and Winter Park. Many clubs do three day bus trips to Mammoth during the ski season on race weekends to support the Alpine Race League.

Our official start of the ski season will begin with our Rock and Roll Gala organized by Barbara Blasé and Chris Gill. This year, the Gala will be held at the Holiday Inn Shelter Island. The cost will be \$38 for dinner and dancing with a DJ. Contact Barbara Blasé to make a reservation. [bblase@san.nr.com](mailto:bblase@san.nr.com)

The clubs select an outstanding man and a woman as a way of honoring their most valuable and active members. In 2013 our award winners were Diane Raines of Torrey Pines Ski Club and Dave Arnold of North Island Snowdrifters.

SDCSC supports various charities, such as Can Do MS Foundation, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Special Olympics, United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC), Habitat for Humanity, San Diego Community Youth Sports Mentoring, Toys for Tots and Becky's House. One of our clubs maintains an active account at the San Diego Blood Bank in case a member needs blood.





## San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

[www.skisandiego.org](http://www.skisandiego.org)  
President: Eileen Sanford  
858-695-1442  
esanford@san.rr.com

## San Diego Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs & Contact Information

**ACTION SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
[www.actionski.org](http://www.actionski.org)  
President: Tom Walters  
619-940-6220  
prez@actionski.org

**BAE SYSTEMS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
President: Ed Langmaid  
858-278-1774  
edszhi@san.rr.com

**DON DIEGO SKI CLUB**  
<http://www.ski-dondiego.org>  
President: Larry Pickering  
858-755-6580

**GET OFF YOUR ROCKERS SKI CLUB**  
<http://www.getoffyourrockers.org>  
President: Fred Shatsky  
858-453-7192  
GOYRPresident@GetOffYourRockers.org

**NORTH ISLAND SNOWDRIFTERS**  
[www.nisnowdrifter.com](http://www.nisnowdrifter.com)  
President: Dave Arnold  
619-733-9266  
president@nisnowdrifter.com

*Originally opened for the 1939-1940 ski season as the Winter Park Ski Area, it is one of the oldest ski areas in the country. Now known as Winter Park Resort, it currently consists of three interconnected mountain peaks, Winter Park, Mary Jane, and Vasquez Ridge, which share a common lift ticket. Travel to Winter Park with SDCSC.*

*photo courtesy of Winter Park Resort*

**PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE SNOW SPORTS CLUB**  
[www.pacificrimalliance.org](http://www.pacificrimalliance.org)  
President: Catherine Ohl  
858-467-9469  
ohl@acatmeowz.com

**QUALCOMM SKI AND SNOWBOARD CLUB**  
[bmccabe@qualcomm.com](mailto:bmccabe@qualcomm.com)  
Representative: Katie Wiest  
858-263-9224

**SAN DIEGO SKI CLUB**  
<http://san-diego-ski-club.org>  
President: Erin Barber  
619-889-2464

**SOLAR SUNDSTRAND SKI CLUB**  
President: Bob Morton  
619-742-3406  
coolbrees@earthlink.net

**TORREY PINES SKI CLUB**  
[tpscsd.org](http://tpscsd.org)  
President: Joe Goldhammer  
619-286-0624

**2015 FWSA Convention to be held in San Diego.**



## Sierra Council & Race League by Jo Simpson, President

There are many reasons to become involved in a Sierra Council ski club:

- Ski and board with new friends
- Get group discounts on trips and lift tickets
- Enjoy year-round social and outdoor sport activities
- Try recreational ski and snowboard racing

The members of the 12 Sierra Council clubs and race teams enthusiastically welcome new members to join in their snowsports and other activities. Our larger member clubs offer a variety of year-round activities, including golf, tennis, campouts, hiking, trips to summer festivals, and additional opportunities for social interaction at meetings, parties and happy hours. Our annual council holiday party in early December provides a festive start to the new ski season.

There are two ski clubs in Las Vegas - the Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports and the Las Vegas Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club. They offer winter ski trips, hiking and year round social activities.

The Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club is based in Truc-

*With so many fine resorts to explore nearby, those legs must get tired! Dirk Jaghmann, Ileana Tibuleac and Alyssa Buttenberg relax on the snow.*

*photo by Jo Simpson*

kee and enjoys group ski days to Lake Tahoe ski resorts throughout the winter. The Cabernet Ski and Race Club is based in Truckee, and as its name indicates, is primarily focused on racing. The Capital Ski and Sports Club, based in Sacramento, offers skiing, social activities, and camping and rafting trips in the summer. The Sequoia Ski Club is in Visalia, California. The RU Ski Club draws primarily from the Bay Area.

In northern Nevada, the Reno Ski and Recreation Club offers a full schedule of social activities throughout the year, as well as summer camping trips and group ski days at Lake Tahoe resorts. They are taking a club trip to Vail this winter.

The Top Gun Club members are primarily active and retired military members in northern Nevada and the Lake Tahoe areas who participate in racing. The Rat Pack is based on the Lake Tahoe south shore, and the Sugar Bowl Ski Club operates out of that resort.

Each club offers a different experience. They all enthusiastically welcome active adults who enjoy skiing, boarding and other outdoor activities and socializing



▶ with others who have similar interests.

▶ Our club members enthusiastically participate in Far West Ski Association trips. Larger clubs offer group ski days at nearby resorts and week long and weekend trips.

### Extensive Racing Program

Recreational ski racing is a key activity of the council. Clubs and individuals compete for medals and end of season awards. The race league typically schedules eight regular season races, including a very popular Super G race.

We share the race course with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council's Singles and Open Leagues. This collaboration keeps participation costs affordable and enhances the racing experience. Sierra racers span all ability levels. Any skier who can make linked turns can have a fun time on the race course competing with skiers of similar ability. It's fun to meet and engage in friendly competition with members of other clubs.

Sierra League offers two race clinics over Presidents' Day weekend to get new racers started and to help experienced racers improve. Because our top league racers volunteer their time to coach at these clinics, racers receive excellent coaching at a minimal cost.

Try racing. It's a fun way to expand your skiing experience and improve your ability while making new friends. Junior racers are welcome if accompanied by a racing parent or guardian and they race for free. Our racers are generous with their time to introduce new racers to the world of friendly competition.

Check out our clubs. Sign up for a trip or activity. Ski clubs are a great way to meet active adults who enjoy outdoor recreation and a wide range of social activities.

Visit our website [www.sierraleague.com](http://www.sierraleague.com) for links to the member clubs, racing information and Sierra Council activities.



Courtesy of the Capital Ski & Sports Club Sacramento, CA



Jim Sommer demonstrates ski tuning technique to Reno Ski and Recreation Club members.

photo by Ken Simpson

### Sierra Council & Race League

[www.sierraleague.com](http://www.sierraleague.com)

President: Jo Simpson

775-787-7556

[jo\\_simpson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net)

### Sierra Council & Race League Member Clubs & Contact Information

#### ALPINE SKI and SNOWBOARD CLUB

Las Vegas

[www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com](http://www.alpineskiandsnowboardclub.com)

President: Michael Phillips  
[mpesq8@cox.net](mailto:mpesq8@cox.net)

#### CAPITAL SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Sacramento

[www.capitalski.org](http://www.capitalski.org)

President: Walt Johnson  
[president@capitalski.org](mailto:president@capitalski.org)

#### CABERNET SKI AND RACE CLUB

Truckee

President: Donn Bryant  
[gsrcracer@suddenlink.net](mailto:gsrcracer@suddenlink.net)

#### CODE 3

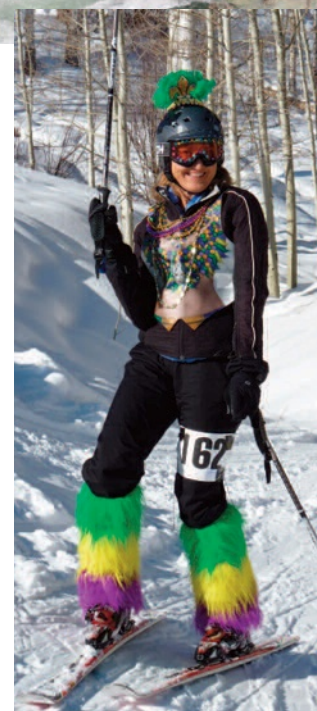
Reno

(Inactive)

President: Jim Sommer  
[sommerskier@aol.com](mailto:sommerskier@aol.com)



Vin Keenan, Reno Ski and Recreation Club skis the powder at Northstar. photo by John Baum



TOP: White Water Rafting is a popular Sierra activity. LOWER: Leslie Kahn, Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club shows off her Mardi Gras costume at the 2013 FWSA Ski Week at Aspen/Snowmass. photo by Ken Calkins

#### LAS VEGAS SKI, Snowboard and Sports CLUB

[www.lasvegasskiclub.com](http://www.lasvegasskiclub.com)

President: Barbara Gottlieb  
[wpshs67@msn.com](mailto:wpshs67@msn.com)

#### RENO SKI AND RECREATION CLUB

[www.renoskiandrec.com](http://www.renoskiandrec.com)

President: Dianne Hilliard  
[prez@renoskiandrec.com](mailto:prez@renoskiandrec.com)

#### RU SKI CLUB

Campbell, California

President: Pavel Bosin  
[pavel@bosin.net](mailto:pavel@bosin.net)

#### SEQUOIA SKI CLUB

Visalia, Calif.

[www.sequoiaskiclub.com](http://www.sequoiaskiclub.com)  
President: Woody Hogan  
[wwhiii@hotmail.com](mailto:wwhiii@hotmail.com)

Information in this section subject to change. Check with respective websites for updates.

#### SUGAR BOWL SKI CLUB

[www.sugarbowlskiclub.com](http://www.sugarbowlskiclub.com)

Norden, California

President: Carson Levitt  
[president@sugarbowlskiclub.com](mailto:president@sugarbowlskiclub.com)

#### TAHOE-DONNER SENIOR ALPINE SKI CLUB

[www.tdski.com](http://www.tdski.com)

President: Jim Pyle  
[infotdski@gmail.com](mailto:infotdski@gmail.com)

#### TAHOE RAT PACK

President: Kris Bittenberg  
[tafari1@earthlink.net](mailto:tafari1@earthlink.net)

#### TOP GUN SKI CLUB

President: Greg Peairs  
[shiftyt@aol.com](mailto:shiftyt@aol.com)



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## NATURE RULES

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[www.VisitYellowstoneCountry.com/FarWest](http://www.VisitYellowstoneCountry.com/FarWest)

**Yellowstone Country**  
**MONTANA**

 Jeff Howe